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R. L. POLK & COMPANY'S  
ILLUSTRATED  
HISTORICAL

# ATLAS

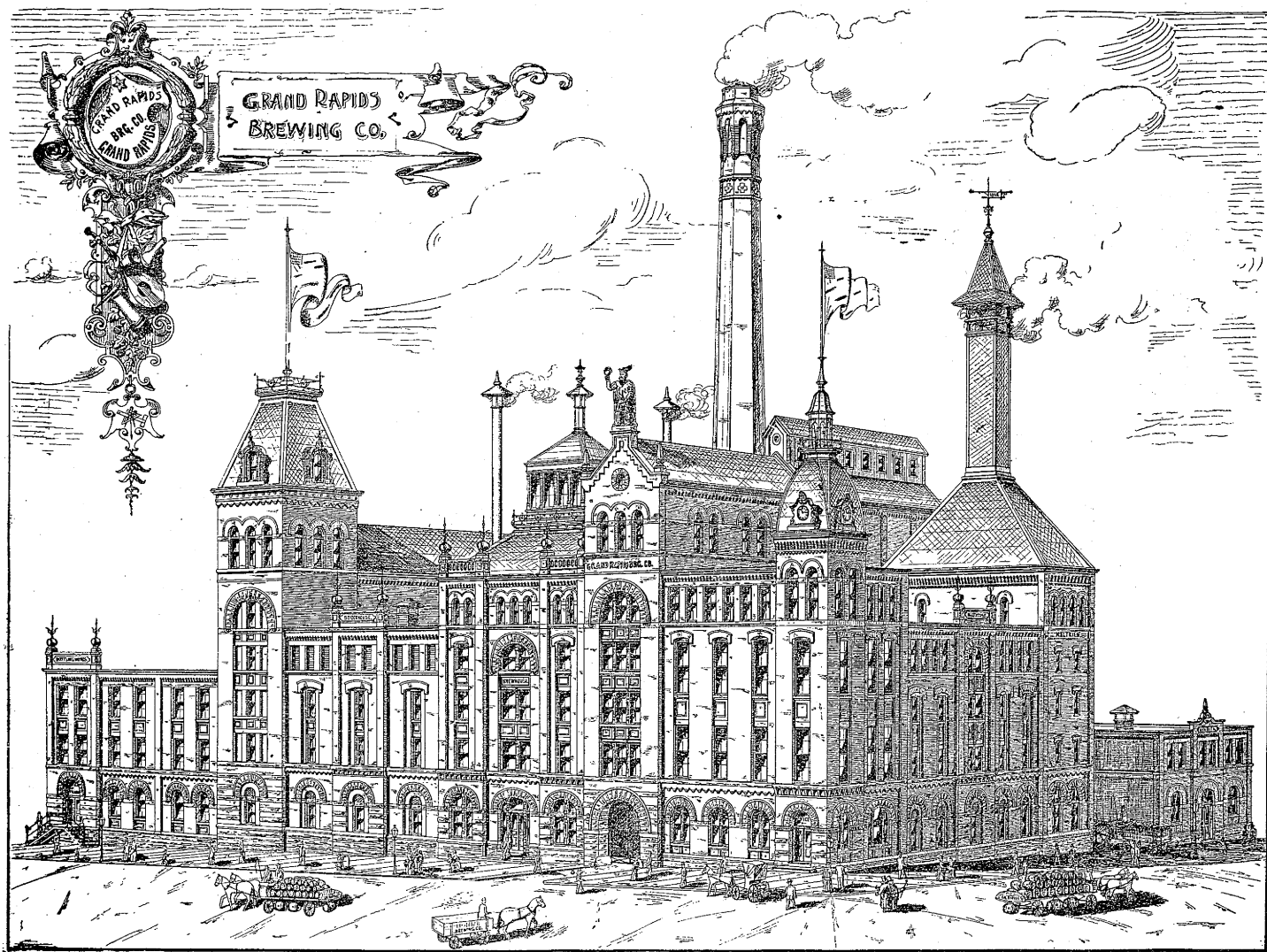
KENT COUNTY \* MICHIGAN

1894



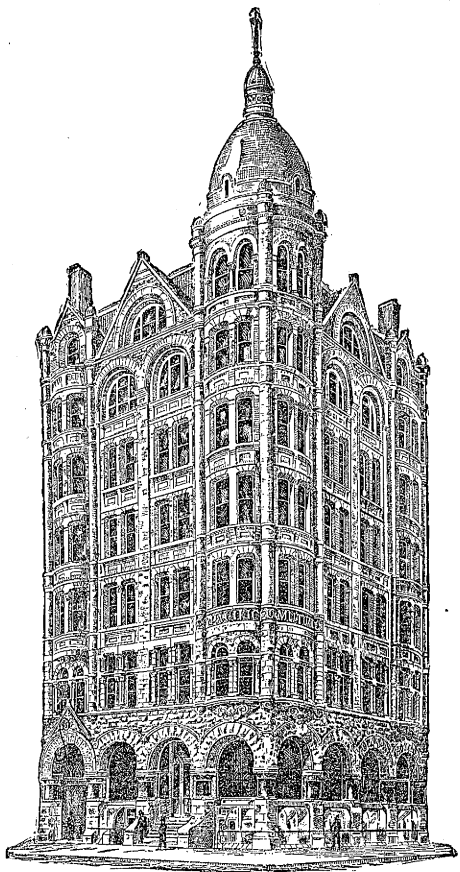






GRAND RAPIDS BREWING CO.





HOME OFFICE BUILDING,  
SAN FRANCISCO.

THE  
**Pacific Mutual**  
**Life Insurance**  
**Company**  
OF **California**  
Organized 1868

LIFE AND  
ACCIDENT

**H**AS the best and safest legal organization for policy holders of any American Company. Issues most approved forms of Life and Endowment Insurance and Accident Policies and Tickets superior in advantages and Profit to the insured.

**POLICIES IN FORCE IN MICHIGAN, OVER \$2,000,000.00**

The Mutual Investment Contracts of The Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company of California present plainly endorsed guarantees of—

**Cash Value** in case of surrender at end of third or subsequent years.

**Paid-up Insurance** in case of surrender at end of second or subsequent years.

**Reversionary Additions**, being the amount payable at death, besides the principal sum.

These are superior contracts of insurance, possessing every element of safety, security and satisfaction. They contain the **Indisputable Clause**; have no restrictions upon residence or travel; have no restrictions upon occupation after the second year.

FOR FULL PARTICULARS  
CALL ON OR ADDRESS

FRED S. CLARK,  
LINCOLN BOWEN.

**CLARK & BOWEN,**

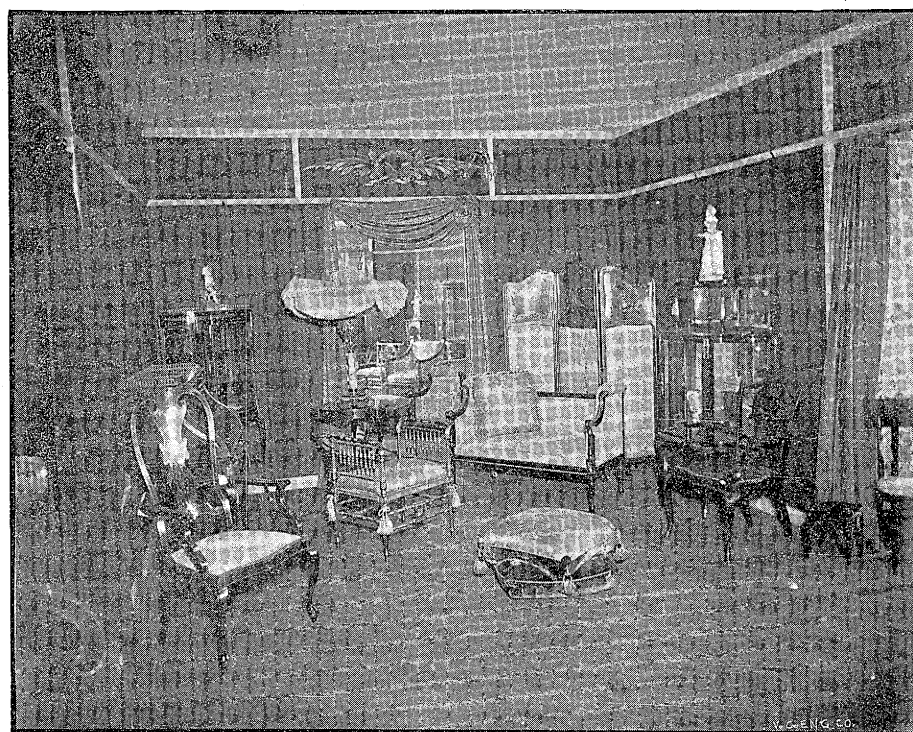
GENERAL AGENTS,

55 AND 56 OLD HOUSEMAN BUILDING.  
TELEPHONE 708.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

**Berkey & Gay**  
**Furniture Company**

ALL LINES  
OF  
FURNITURE



DRAPERIES  
AND  
DECORATIONS

174 to 184 Canal Street

**GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.**



**R. L. POLK & CO.'S**

**ILLUSTRATED**

**HISTORICAL ATLAS**

**OF**

**KENT COUNTY**

**MICHIGAN**

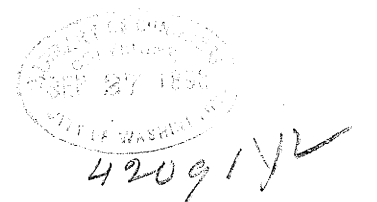
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**1894**

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**R. L. POLK & CO., Publishers**  
34 Monroe Street,  
**GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN**

Copyright 1893 by R. L. Polk & Co.





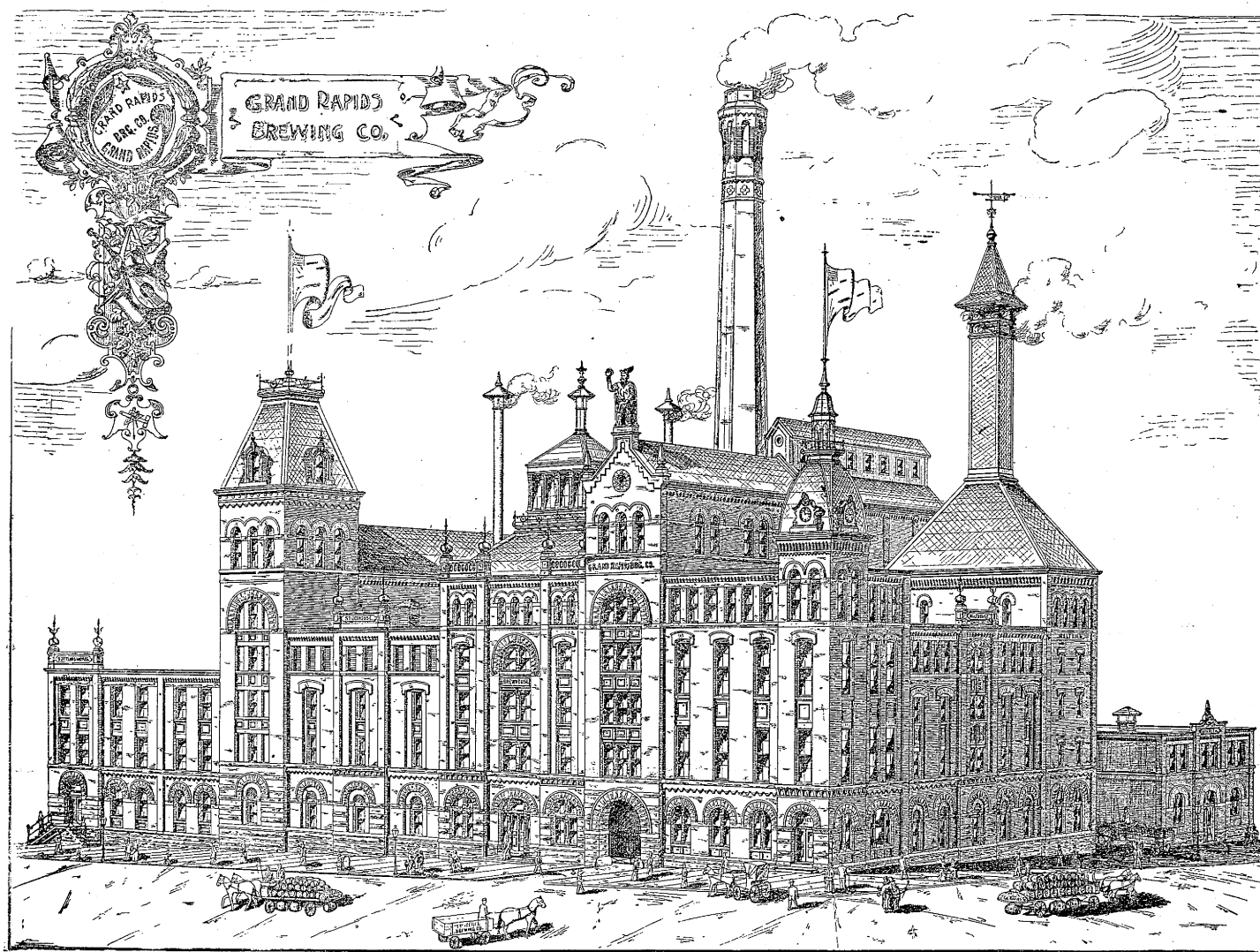




# GRAND RAPIDS BREWING CO.

COR. BRIDGE & IONIA STS.

Telephone No. 119.



Manufacturers and Bottlers of the following  
Brands of Well Known Beer—

## Pilsener, Hofbrau, Export.

Bottling Department, Cor. Stocking & First Sts.



Telephone 340.







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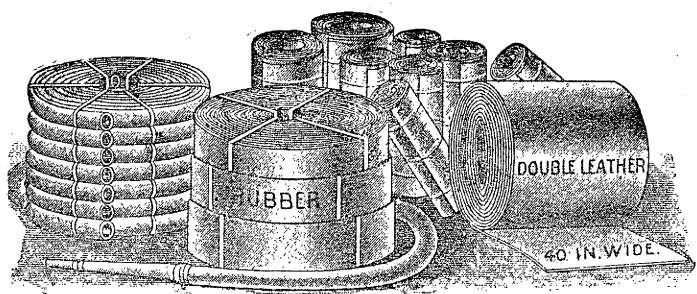
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E. G. STUDLEY.

W. Y. BARCLAY.

## STUDLEY & BARCLAY,



### Mill AND Fire Department Supplies

STATE AGENTS FOR THE  
CELEBRATED . . . .

#### Boston Belting Co.'s

RUBBER BELTING, HOSE AND PACKING.

#### H. Disston & Sons'

CIRCULAR AND BAND SAWS.

#### H. R. Worthington's

STEAM PUMPS.

Brass Goods and Engine  
Trimmings,

INSPIRATORS AND  
INJECTORS,  
THRESHING BELTS,  
LUBRICATING  
OILS, ETC.

WHOLESALE AND  
RETAIL  
DEALERS IN

Rubber and  
Mackintosh  
Clothing,

THE SUPERIOR

Gandee Rubber Boots and Shoes

**BICYCLES** AND Wheelman's Sundries

We sell the leading wheels and are headquarters. Inspect  
our large stock of Ladies' and Gentlemen's  
Mackintosh Clothing.

4 Monroe St., Grand Rapids, Mich.

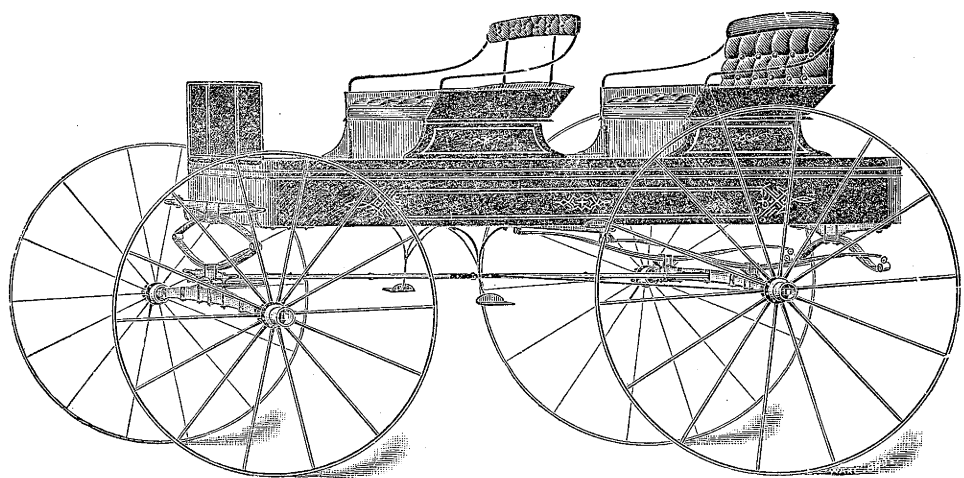
Manufacturers of Pure Oak Leather Belting

## ADAMS & HART,

### CARRIAGE REPOSITORY.

ALSO COMPLETE LINE

### Farm Implements and Windmills



ENGINES, THRESHERS, SAWMILLS AND GENERAL  
LINE HEAVY MACHINERY.

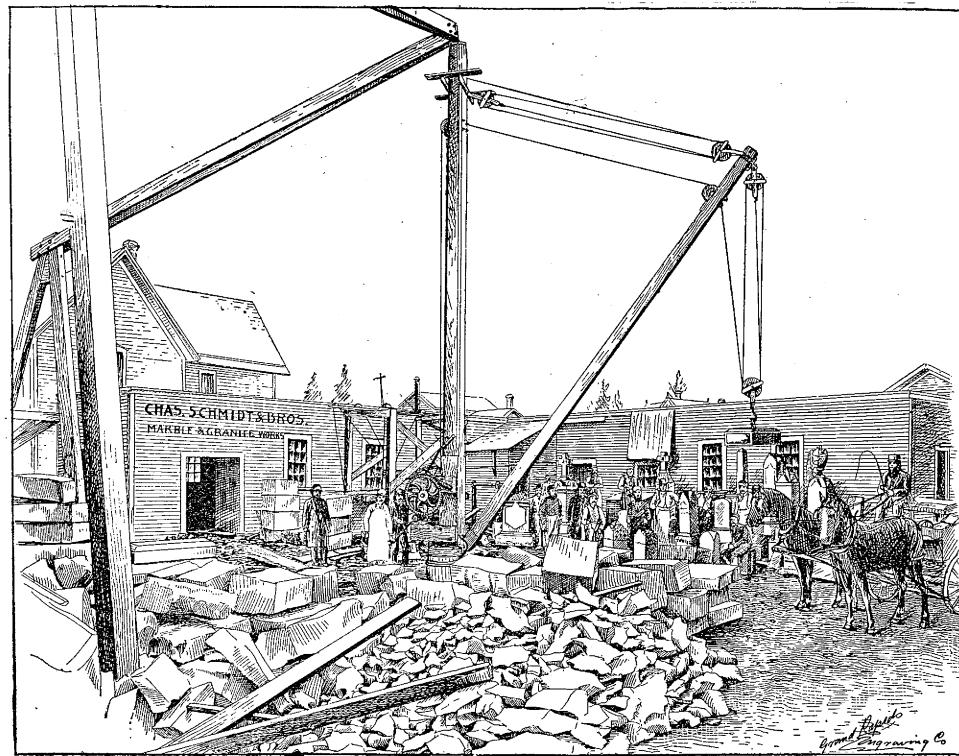
No. 12 West Bridge St.,

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

## Chas. Schmidt & Bros.

Manufacturers and Dealers in

### American and Foreign Granite and Marble MONUMENTS AND STATUARY.



OFFICE AND SALESROOMS, 93 CANAL STREET.

Work Shop and Polishing Mills, Cor. W. Fulton and Straight Sts.

TELEPHONE 348.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

## JAMES F. BROOKS

Room A, Old Houseman Block,

87—PEARL STREET—87

TELEPHONE 1300.

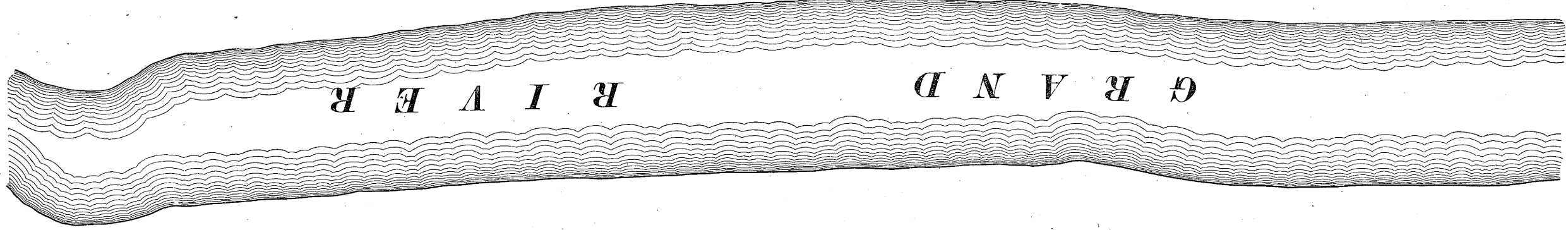
### Real Estate AND Loan Office.

Has a Large List of Business, Farm and City Prop-  
erty to Exchange.

RENTS COLLECTED.

Grand Rapids, Michigan.

We are the only  
firm in Western  
Michigan having  
the necessary Ma-  
chinery and Pol-  
ishing Mills for  
the manufacture  
of our own Granite  
Monuments.

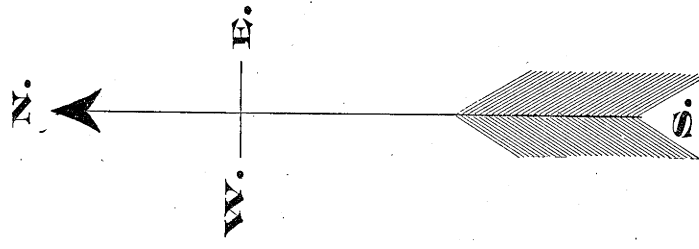


GRAND RIVER

ROBINSON & LACEY

# RIVERSIDE

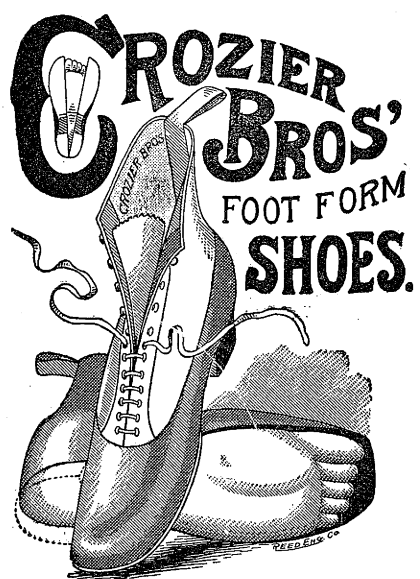
ADDITION.





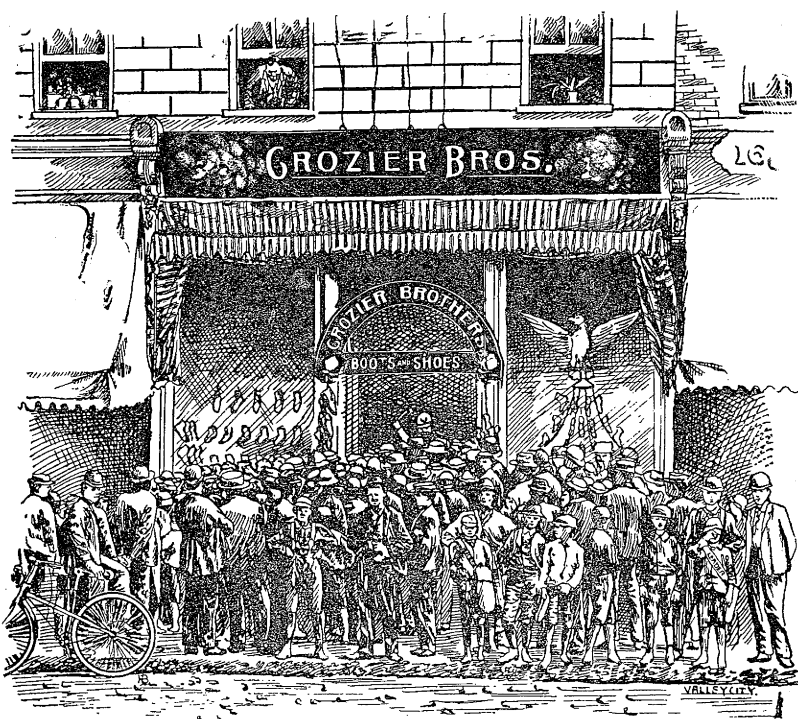
# CROZIER BROTHERS' DOUBLE SHOE STORE

**LOWEST  
LIVING PRICES  
ON ALL  
FOOTWEAR**



CHEAP, EASY  
STYLISH, DURABLE

**FARMERS'  
BOOTS,  
FELTS  
AND RUBBERS**



ACTUAL PHOTOGRAPH OF CROZIER BROS.  
SHOE STORE ON "CAP DAY."

**SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.**

CALL AND SEE THE BARGAINS

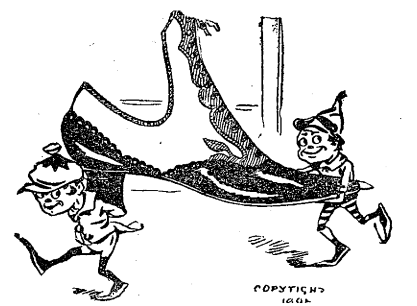
**CORNER CANAL AND LYON STREETS**

**Phenomenal Success of this Well Known Firm  
of Pushing Merchants.**

IN September 1889, Crozier Brothers commenced the wholesale and retail shoe business. Ernest A. Crozier, the managing partner, had had ten years experience in the business. Alfred O. Crozier, the well known attorney, is the other member of the firm, and has general charge of the finances.

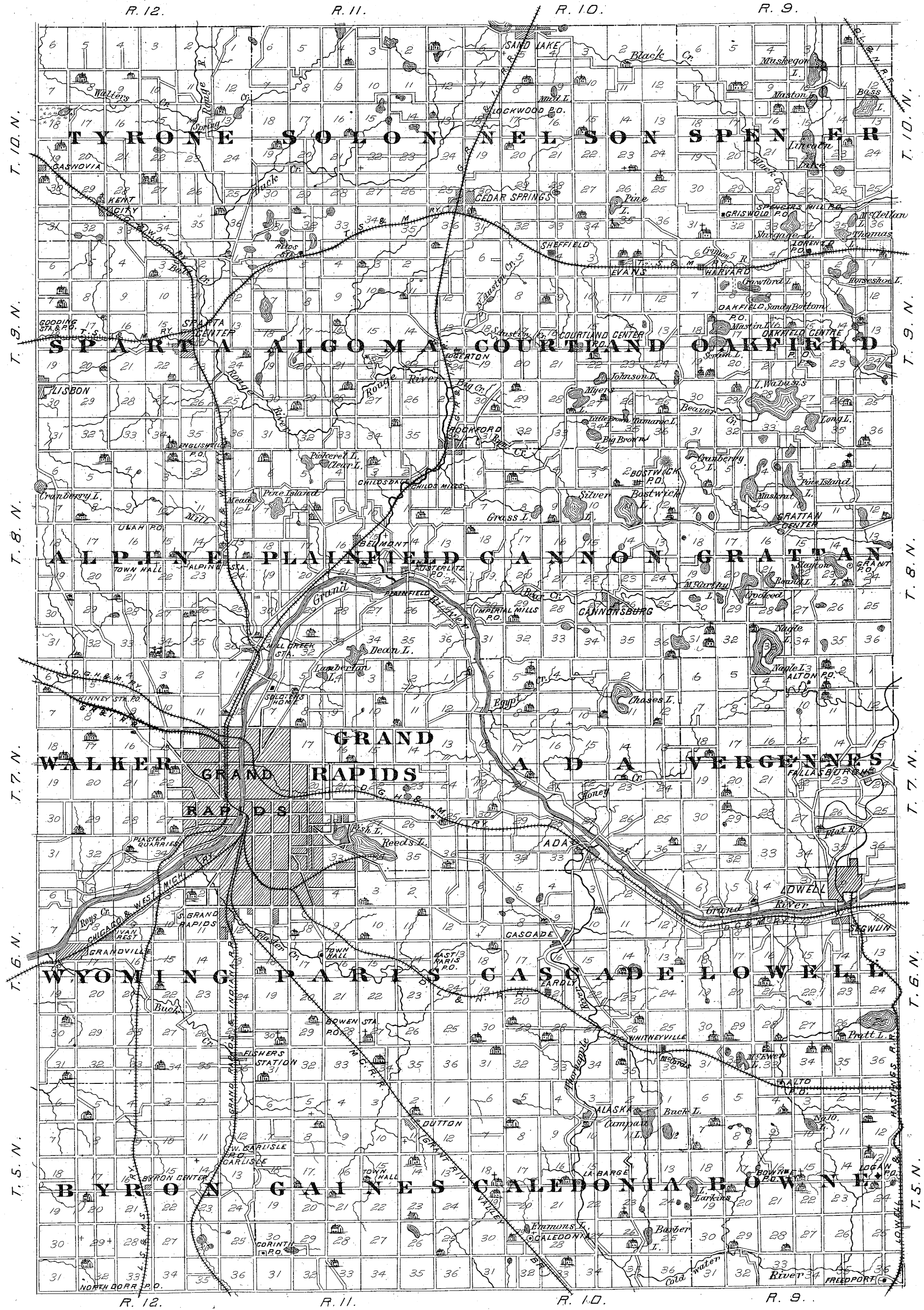
Their business has had a remarkable growth. Their store was first at 18 Canal street. In September 1892 they purchased the old Chicago shoe store at 28 Canal street, paying \$20,000 therefor. They conducted the largest double shoe sale during that fall and winter ever held in Grand Rapids. On May 11, 1893, they held the grand opening of their new store, which was formed by merging both in one, moving out the hat store at the corner of Canal and Lyon streets, taking out the wall between numbers 26 and 28 Canal street; making the largest shoe store in Michigan. They put in a big soda fountain and gave away 10,000 tickets for free ice cream soda in one day. Since that they give a free ticket to each purchaser of one dollar or more. These liberal methods have built them up the largest shoe trade in the city. Their idea is to do a very large business on a small profit basis.

Rev. O. R. L. Crozier, of Ann Arbor, the father of these gentlemen, who formerly lived here, was very prominent in business matters in Kent and Ottawa counties for thirty years, and is well known by all old residents.



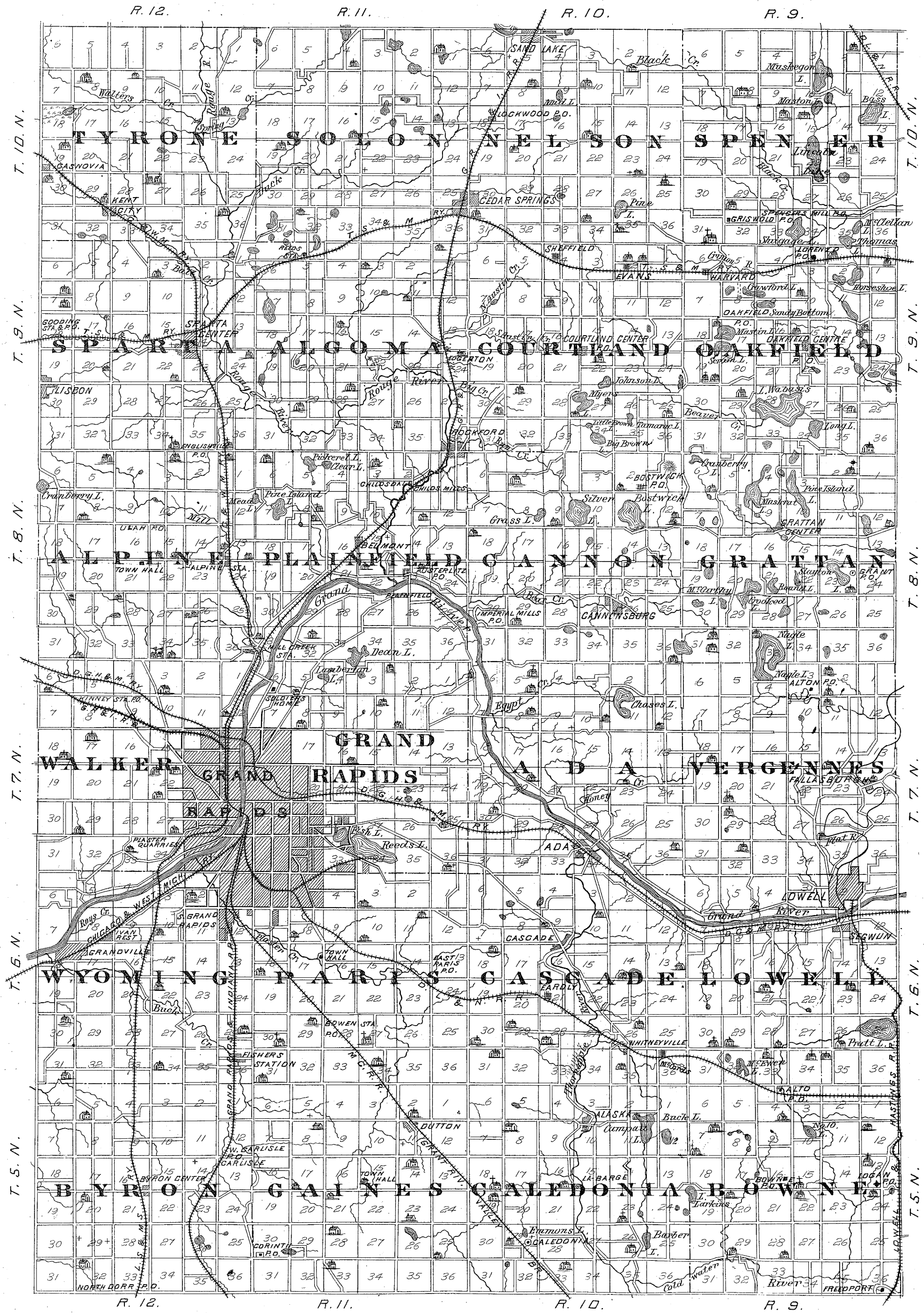
NEWEST NOVELTIES.

# MAP OF KENT COUNTY



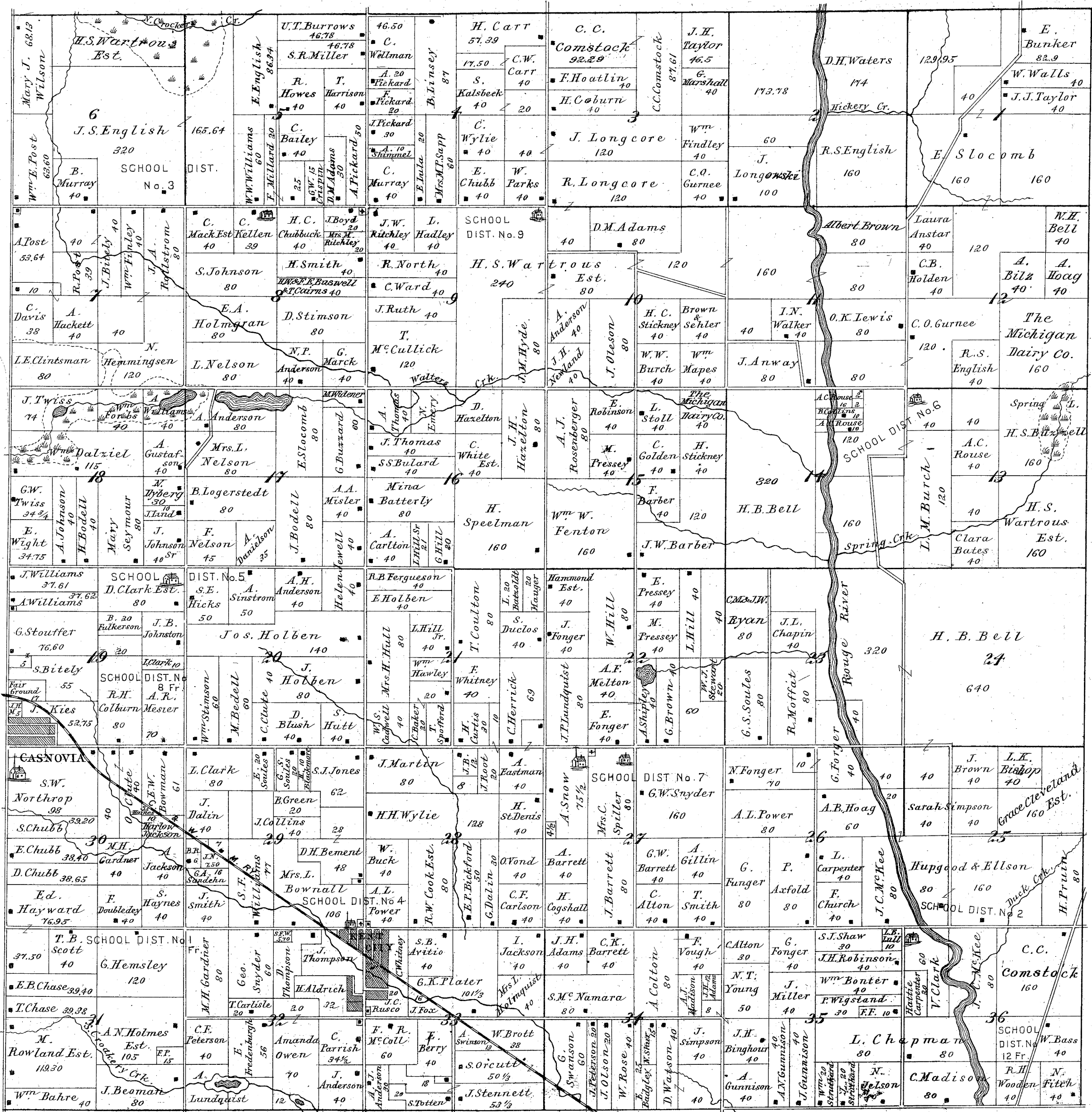


# MAP OF KENT COUNTY



# MAP OF TYRONE TOWNSHIP

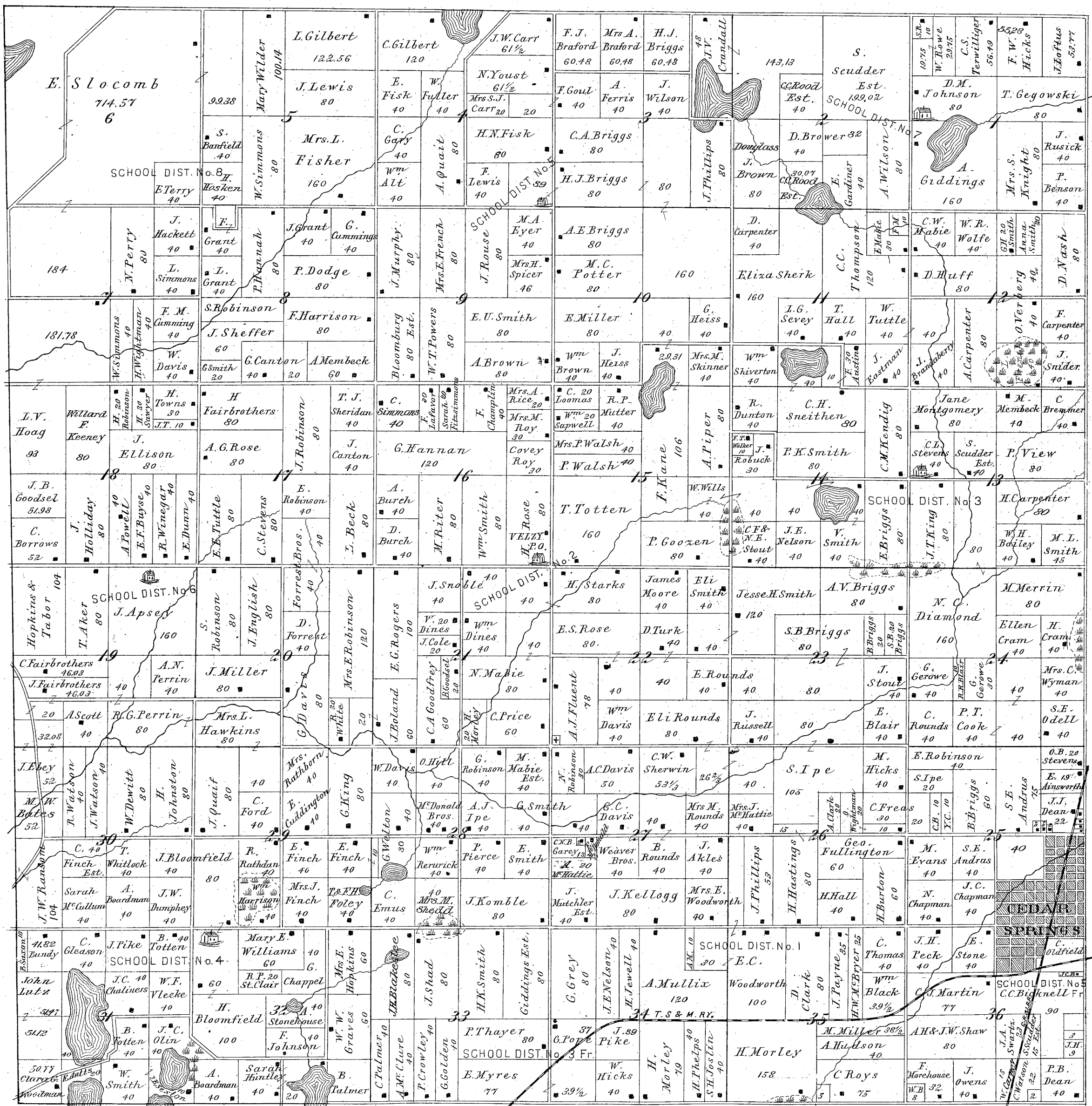
Township 10 North Range 12 West

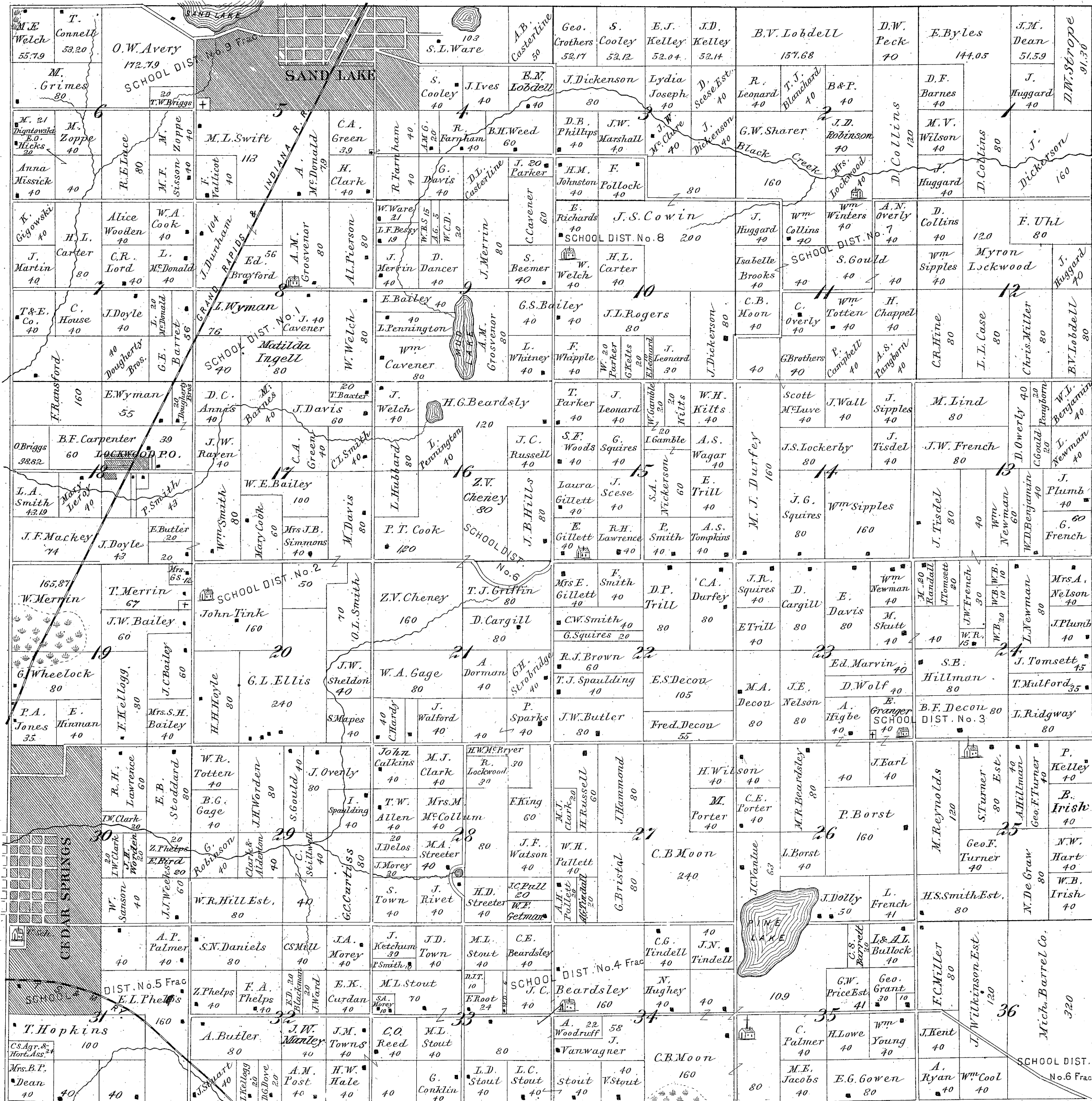




# MAP OF SOLON TOWNSHIP

Township 10 North Range 11 West

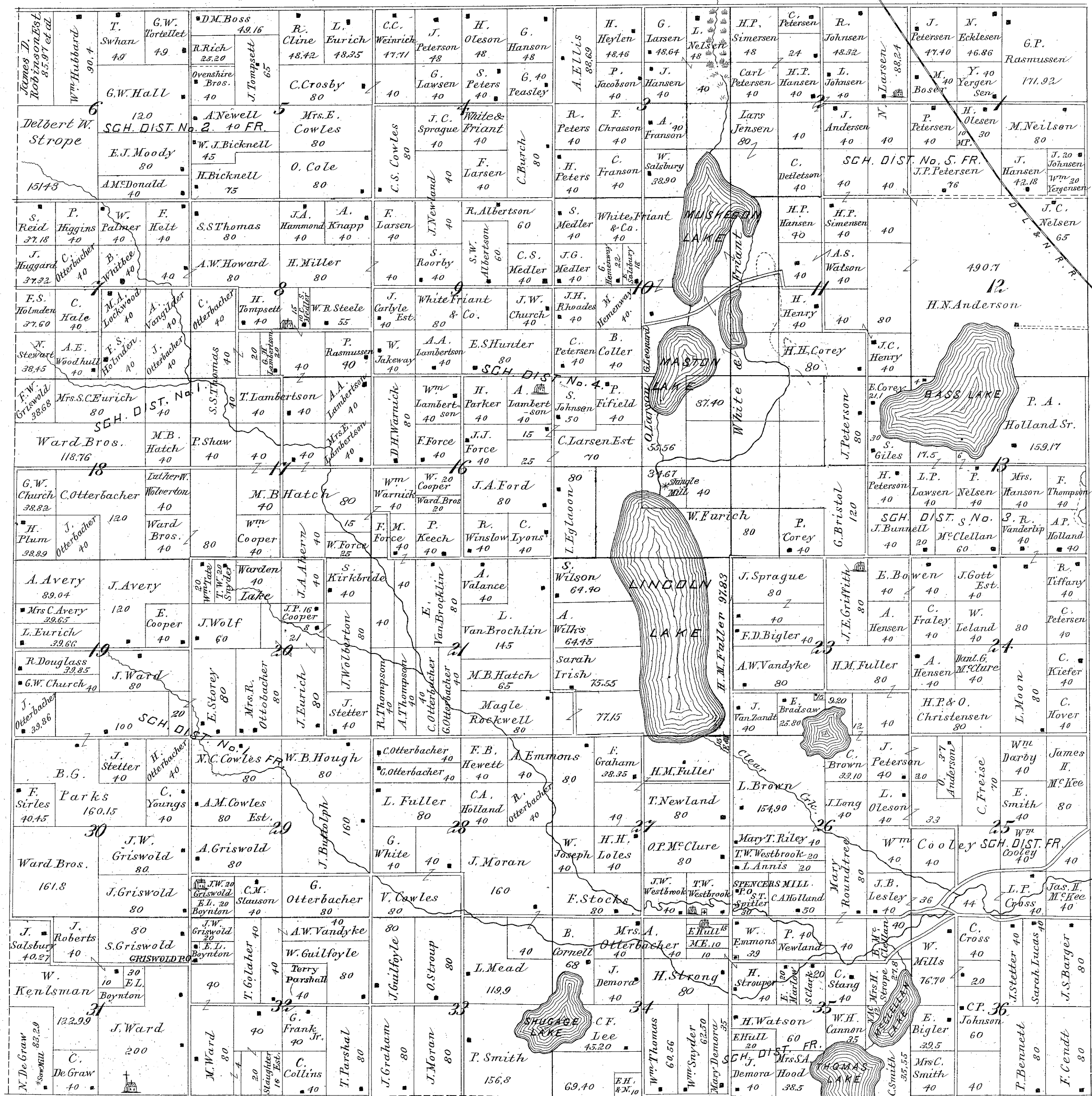






# MAP OF SPENCER TOWNSHIP

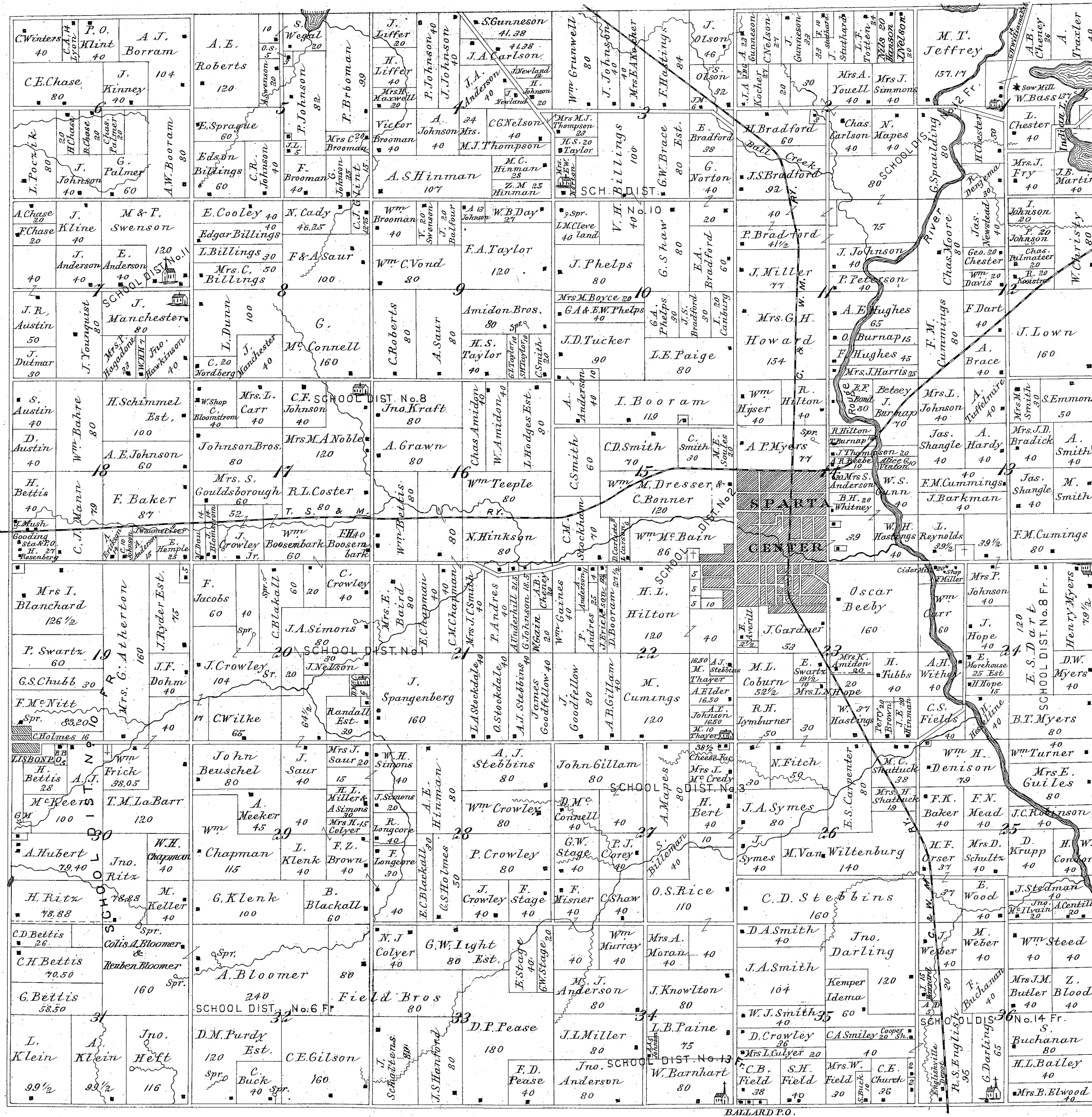
Township 10 North Range 9 West



MAP OF

**SPARTA**

Township 9 North Range 12 West

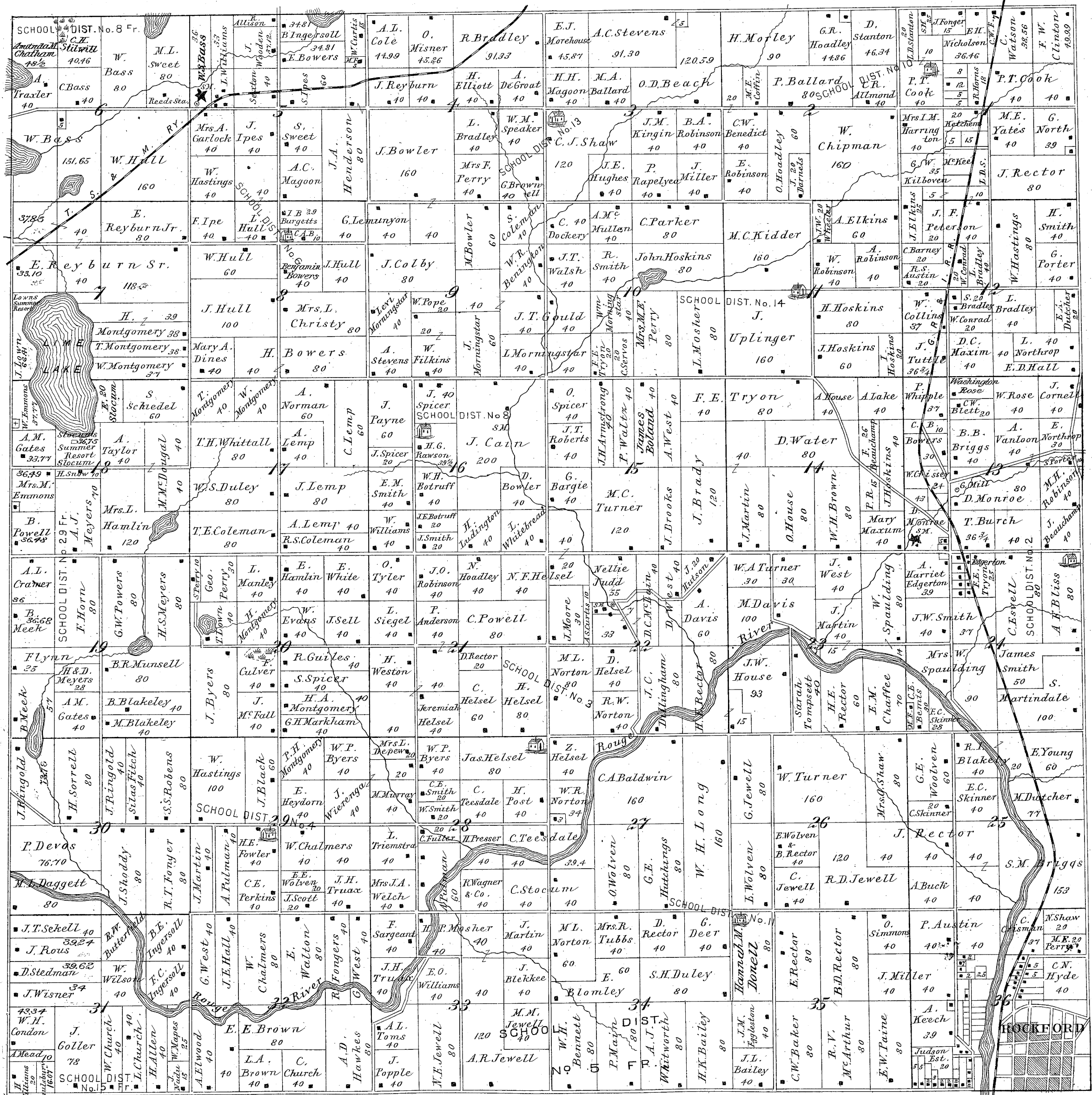


BALLARD P.O.



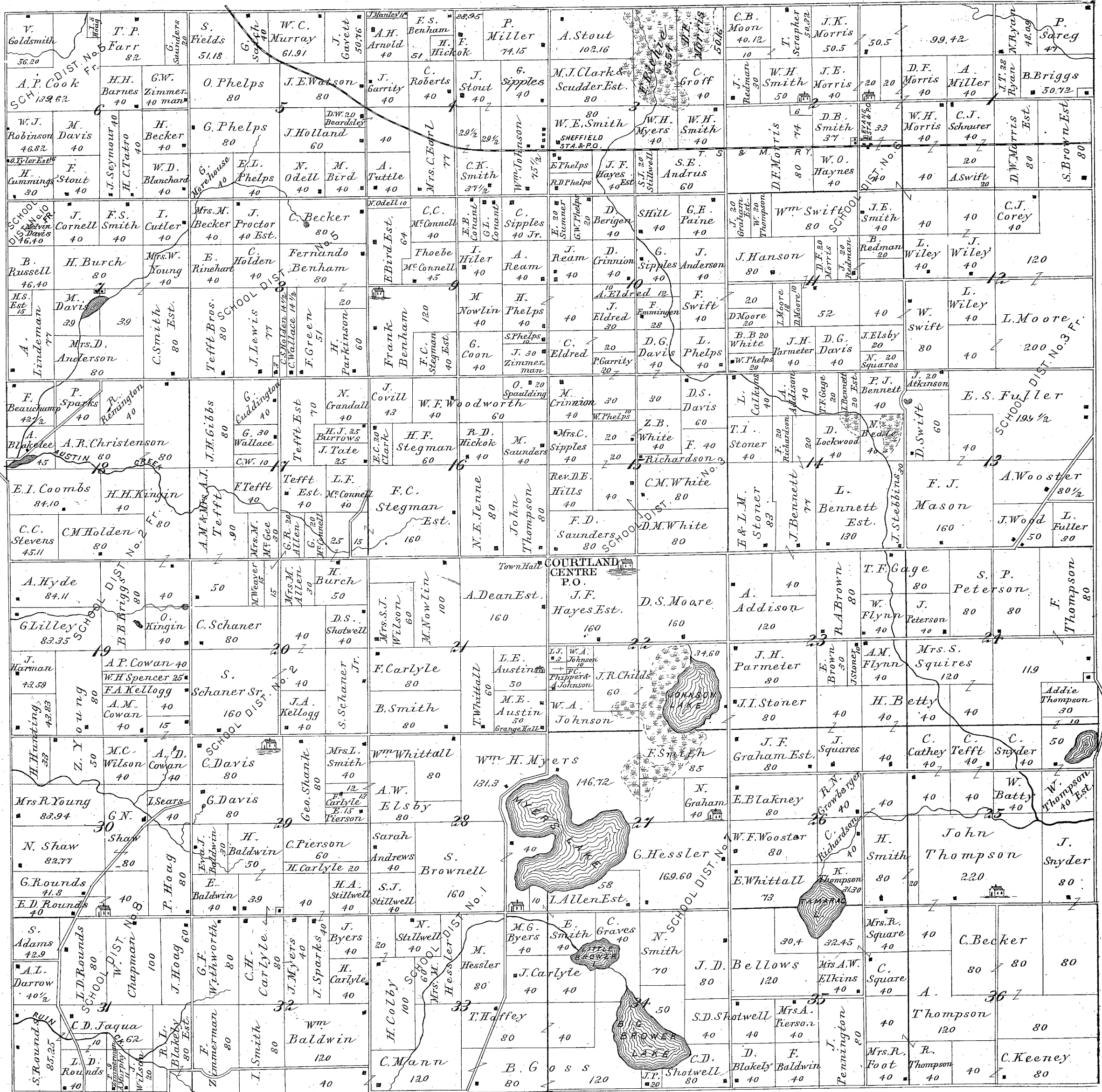
# MAP OF ALGOMA TOWNSHIP

Township 9 North Range 11 West

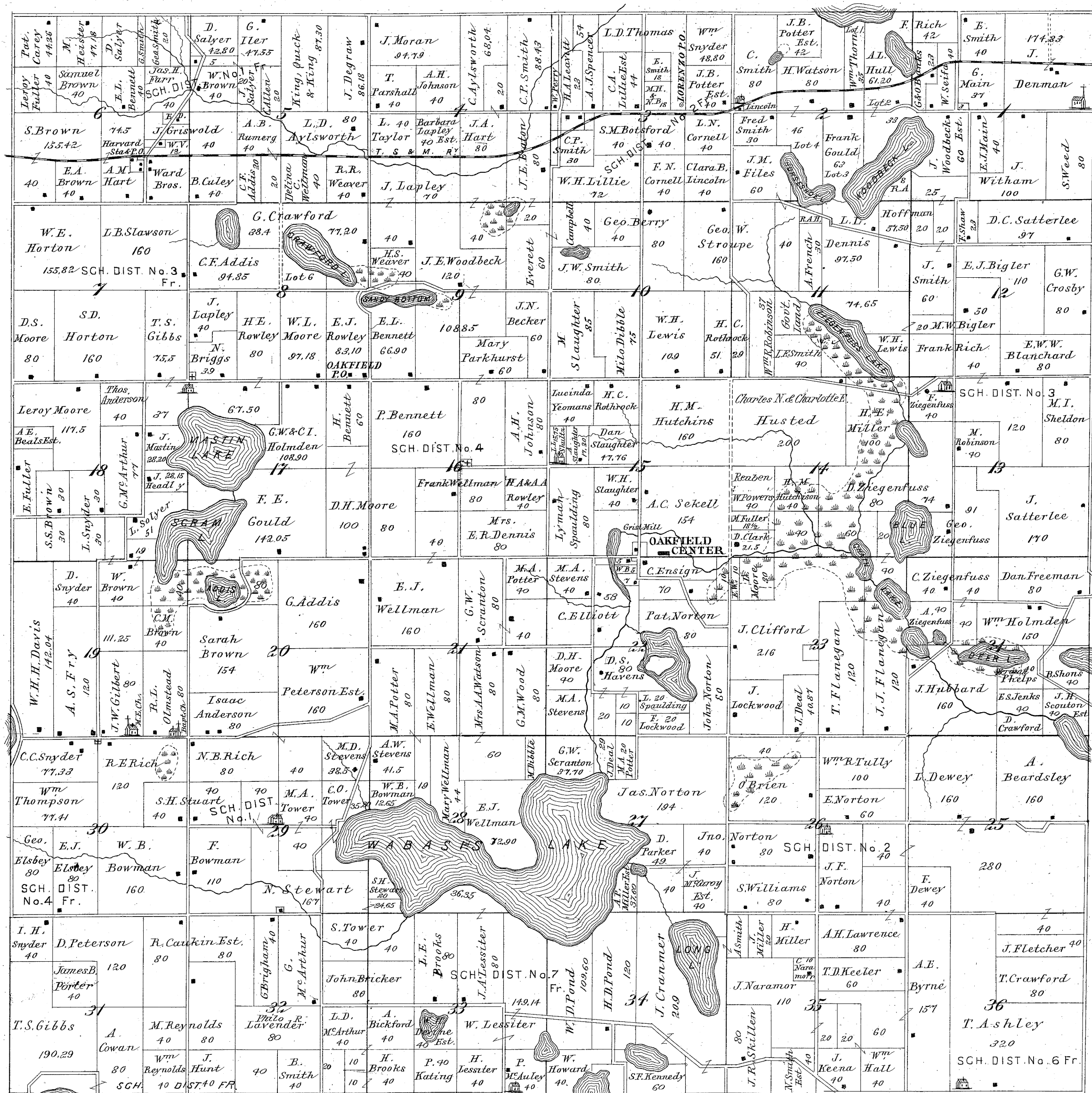


# MAP OF COURTLAND TOWNSHIP

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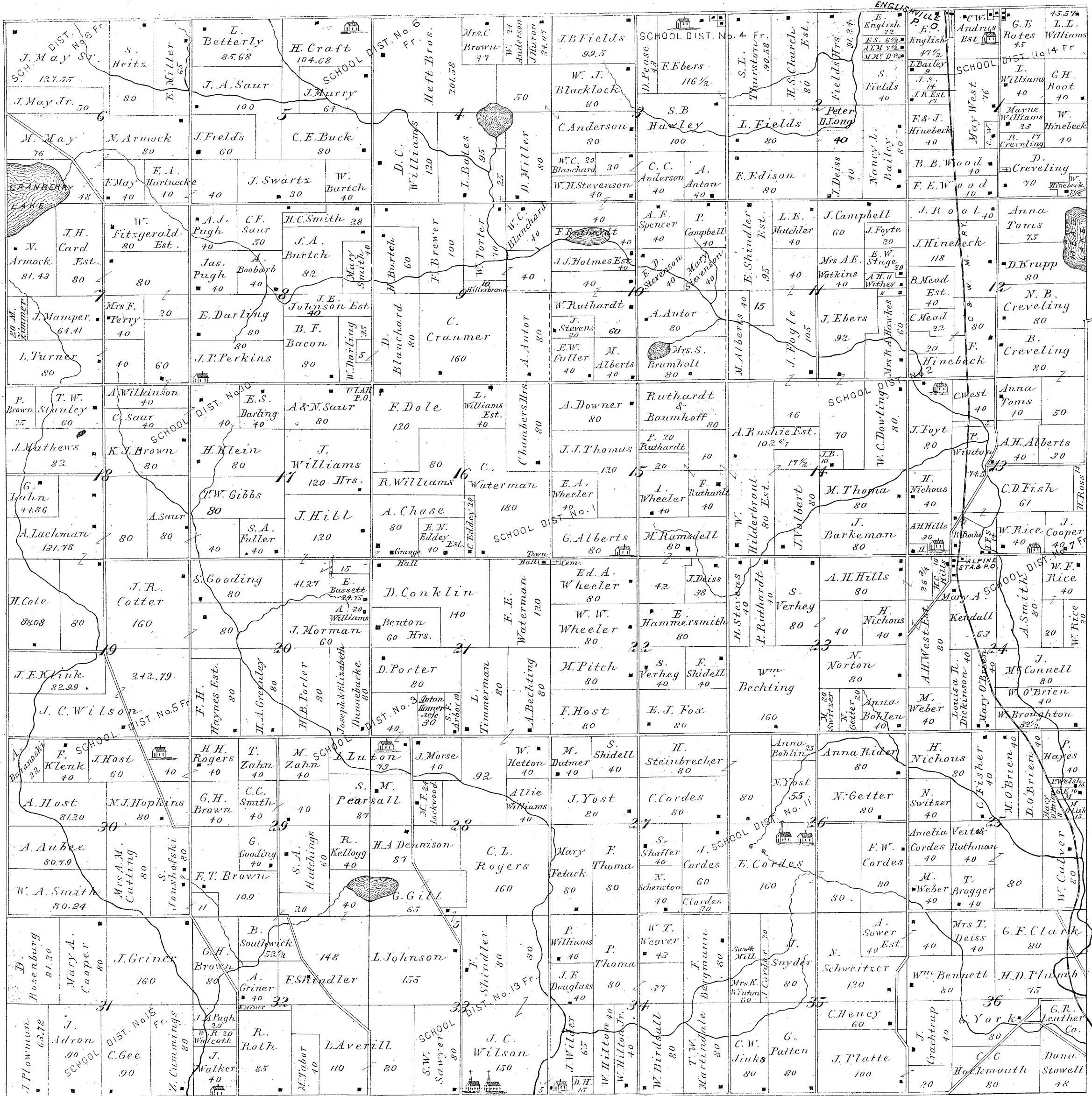




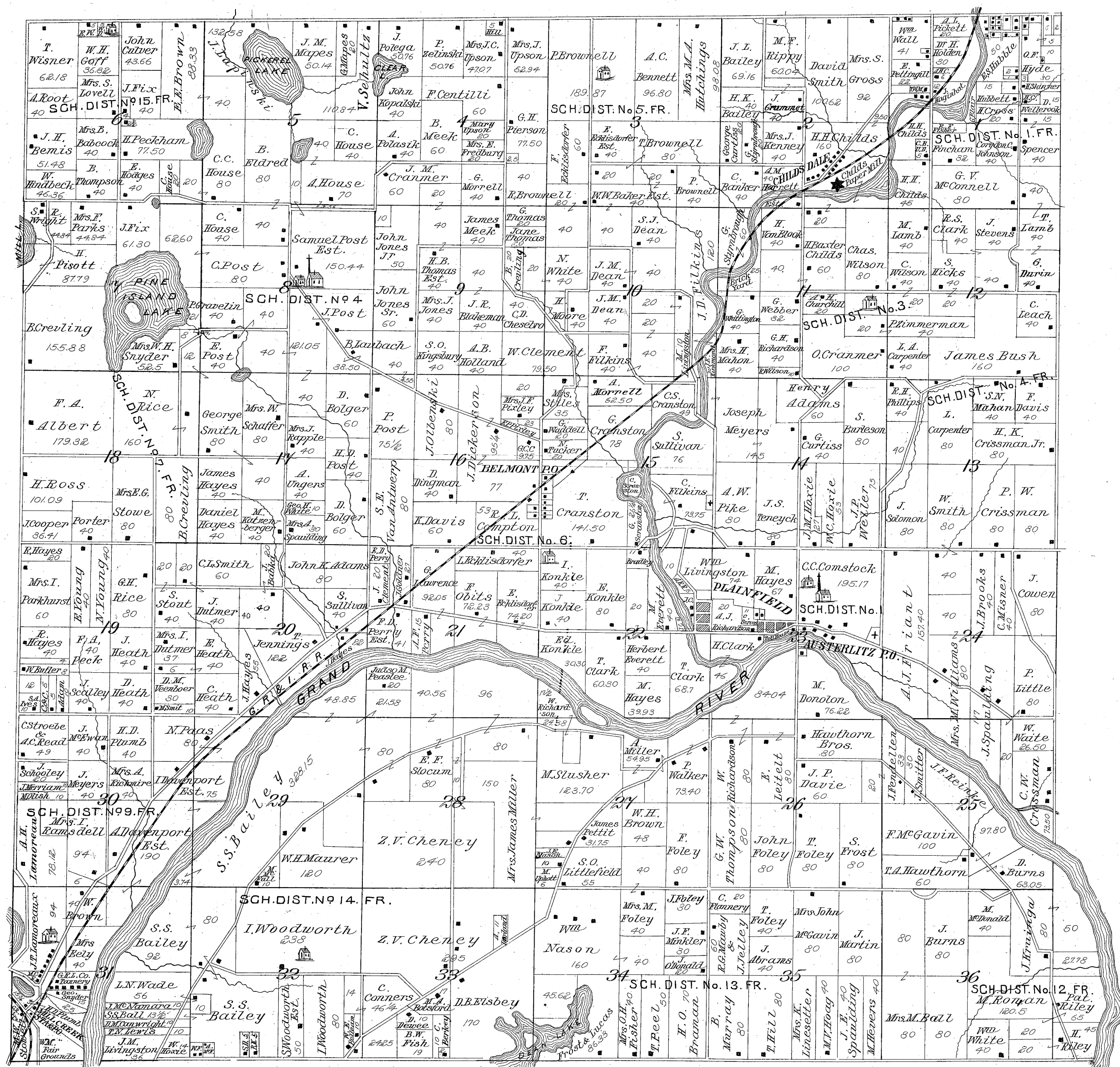


# MAP OF ALPINE TOWNSHIP

Township 8 North Range 12 West

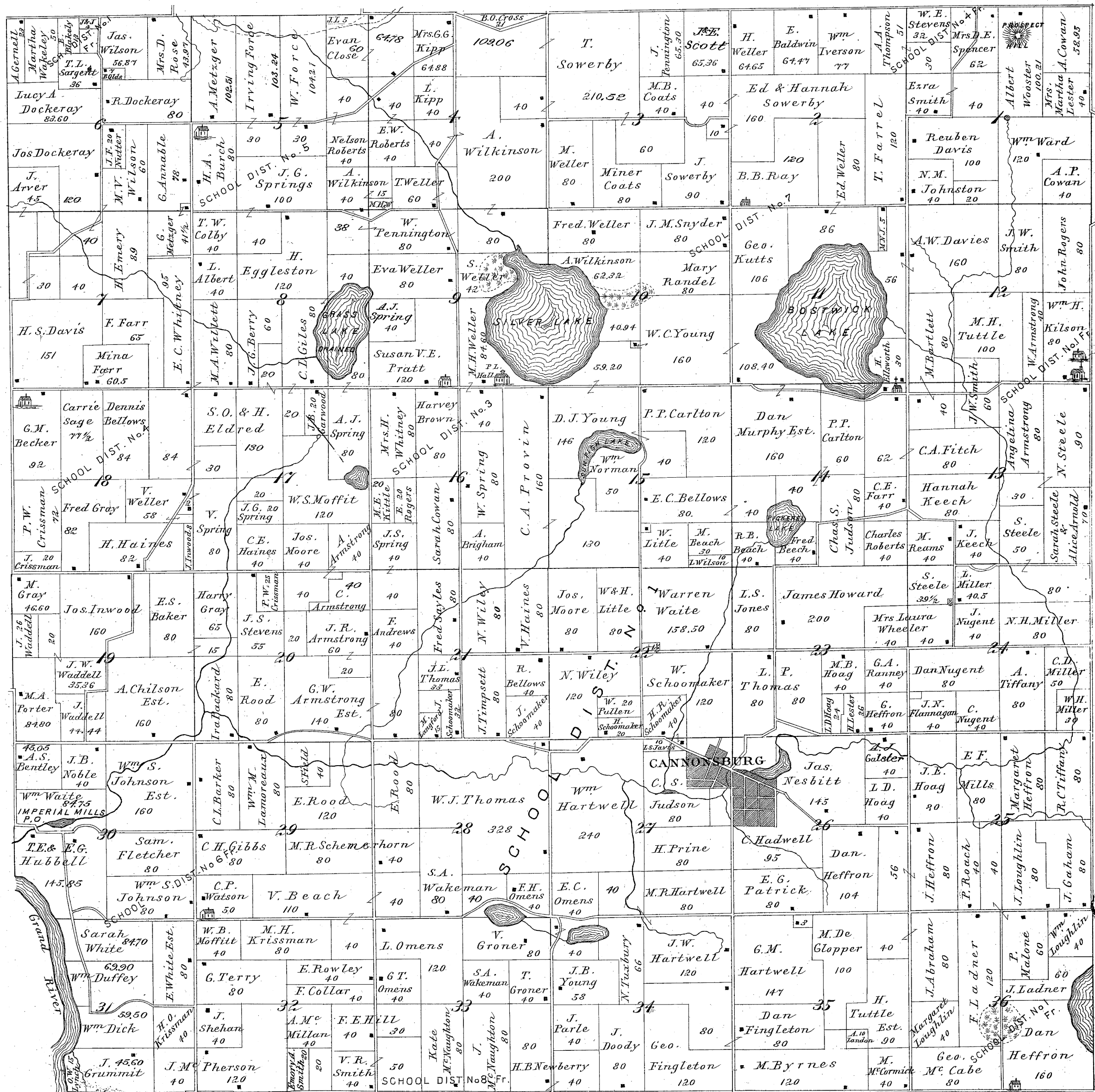




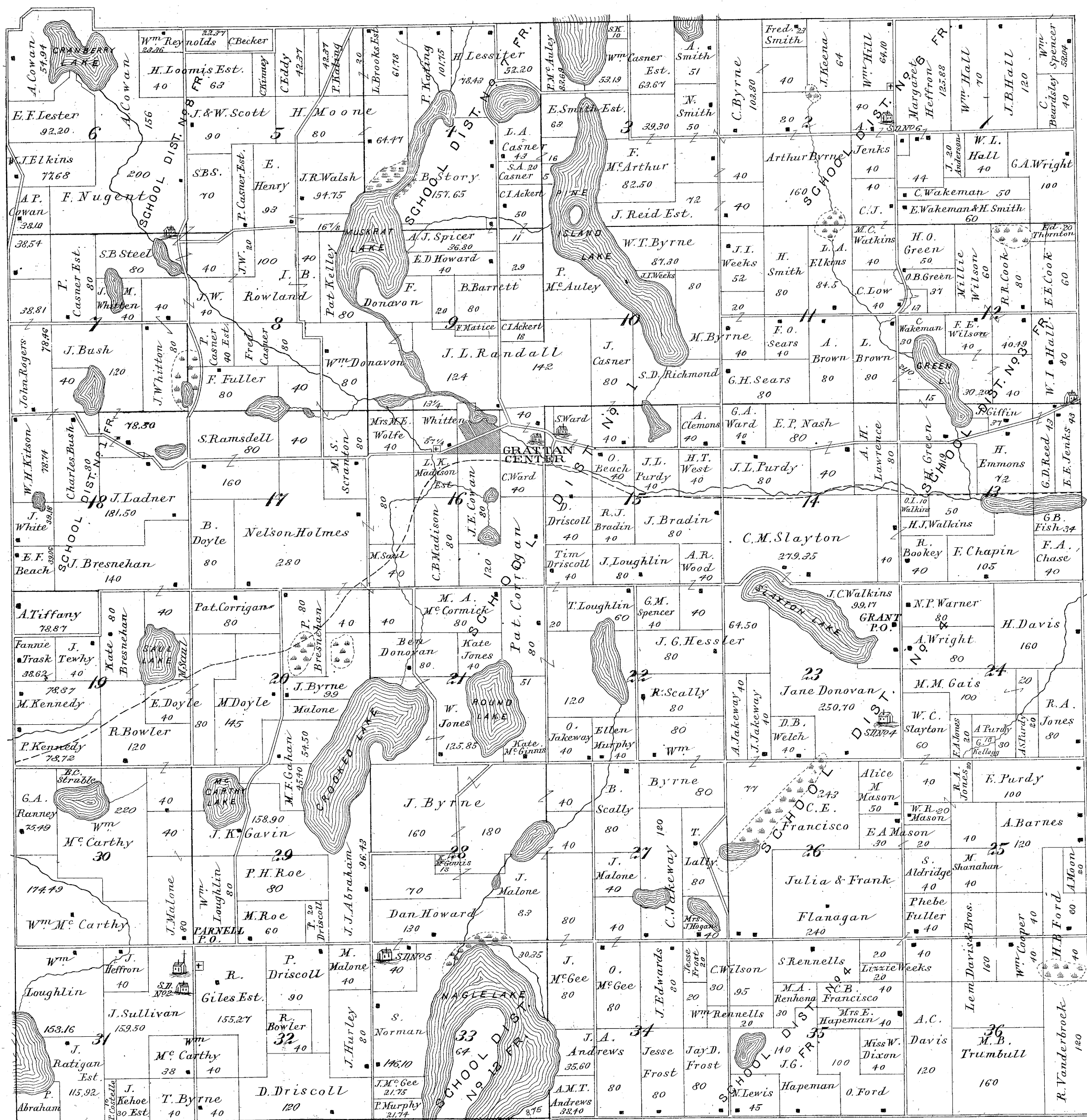


# MAP OF CANNON TOWNSHIP

Township 8 North Range 10 West

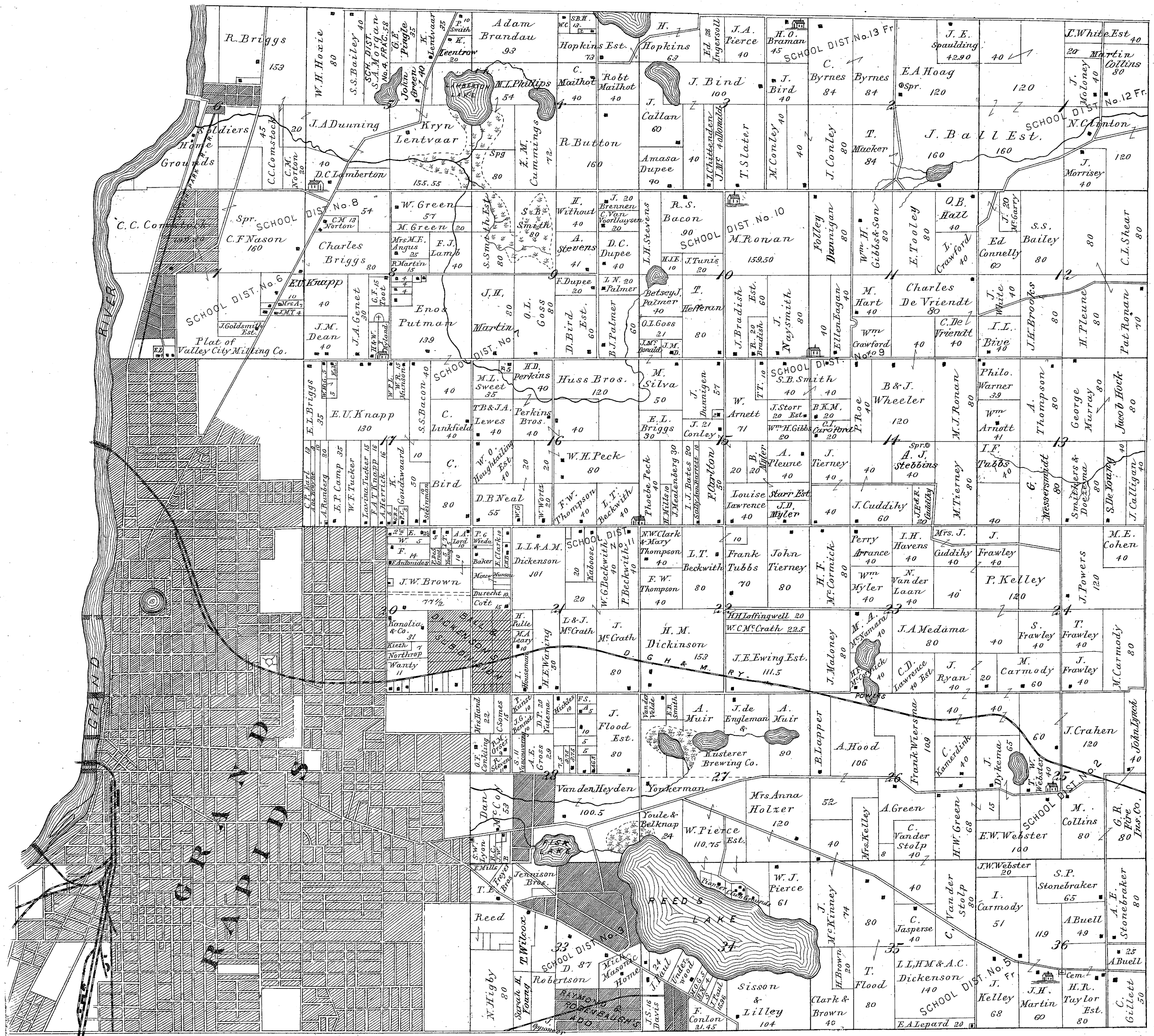


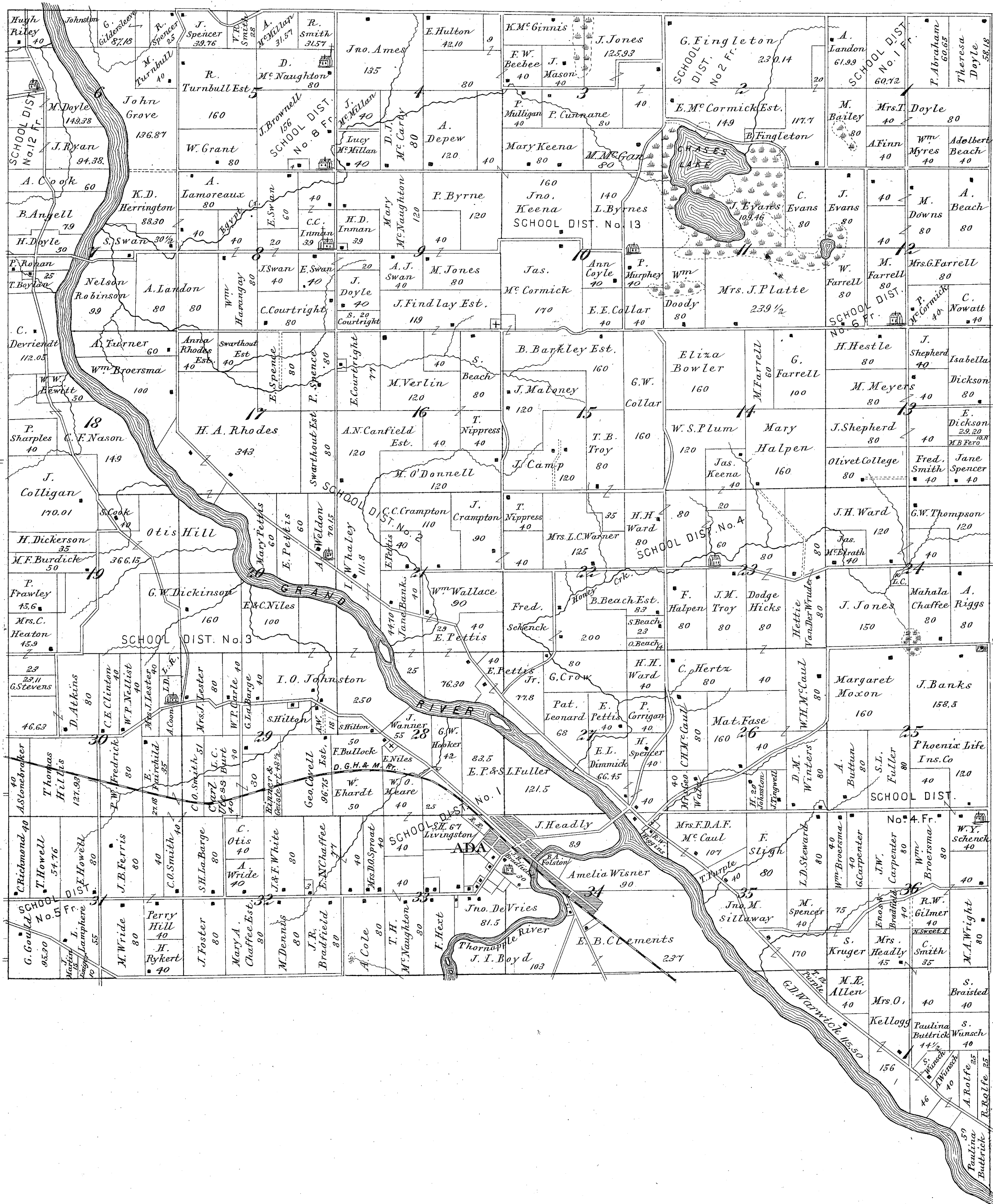




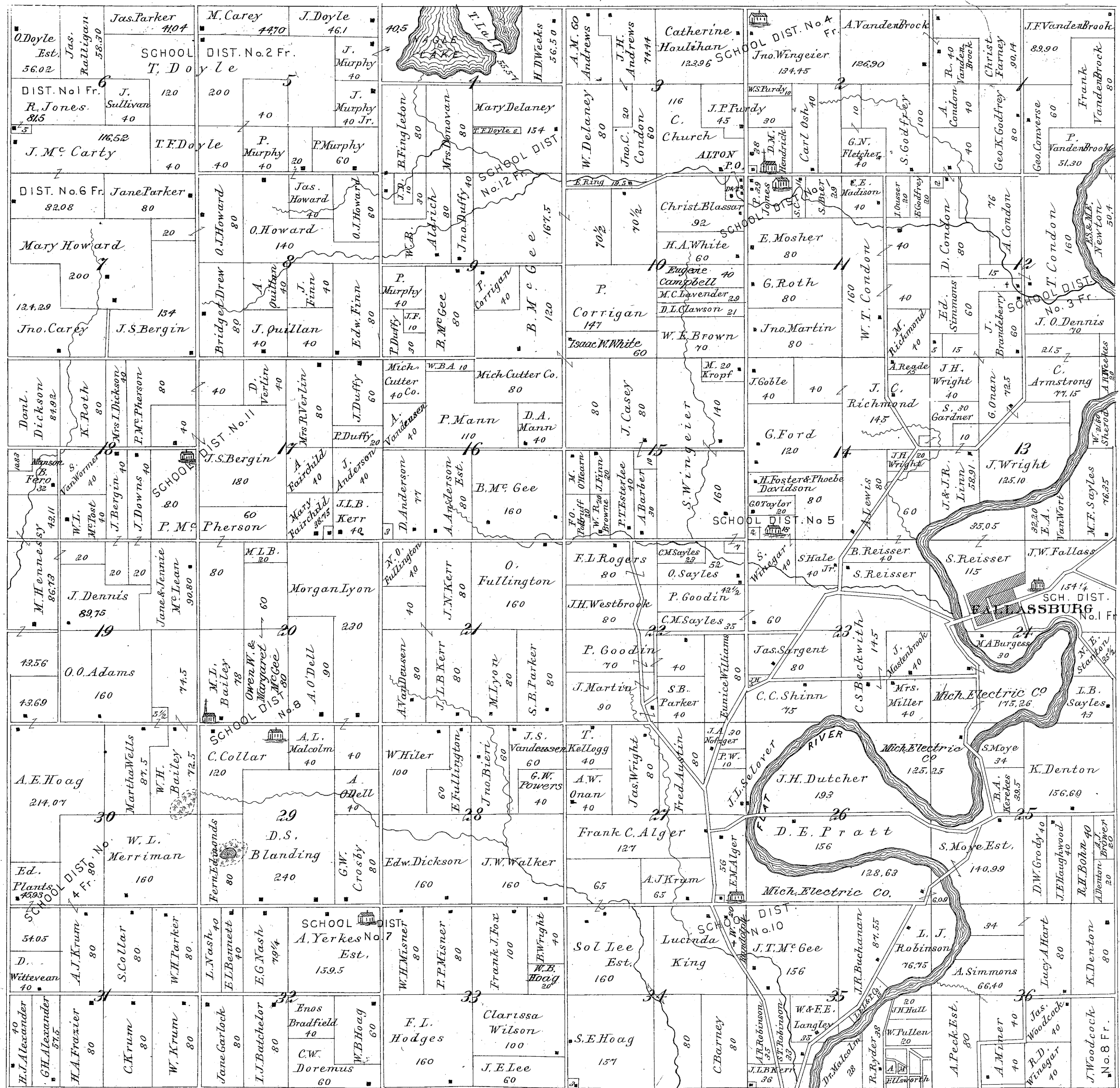




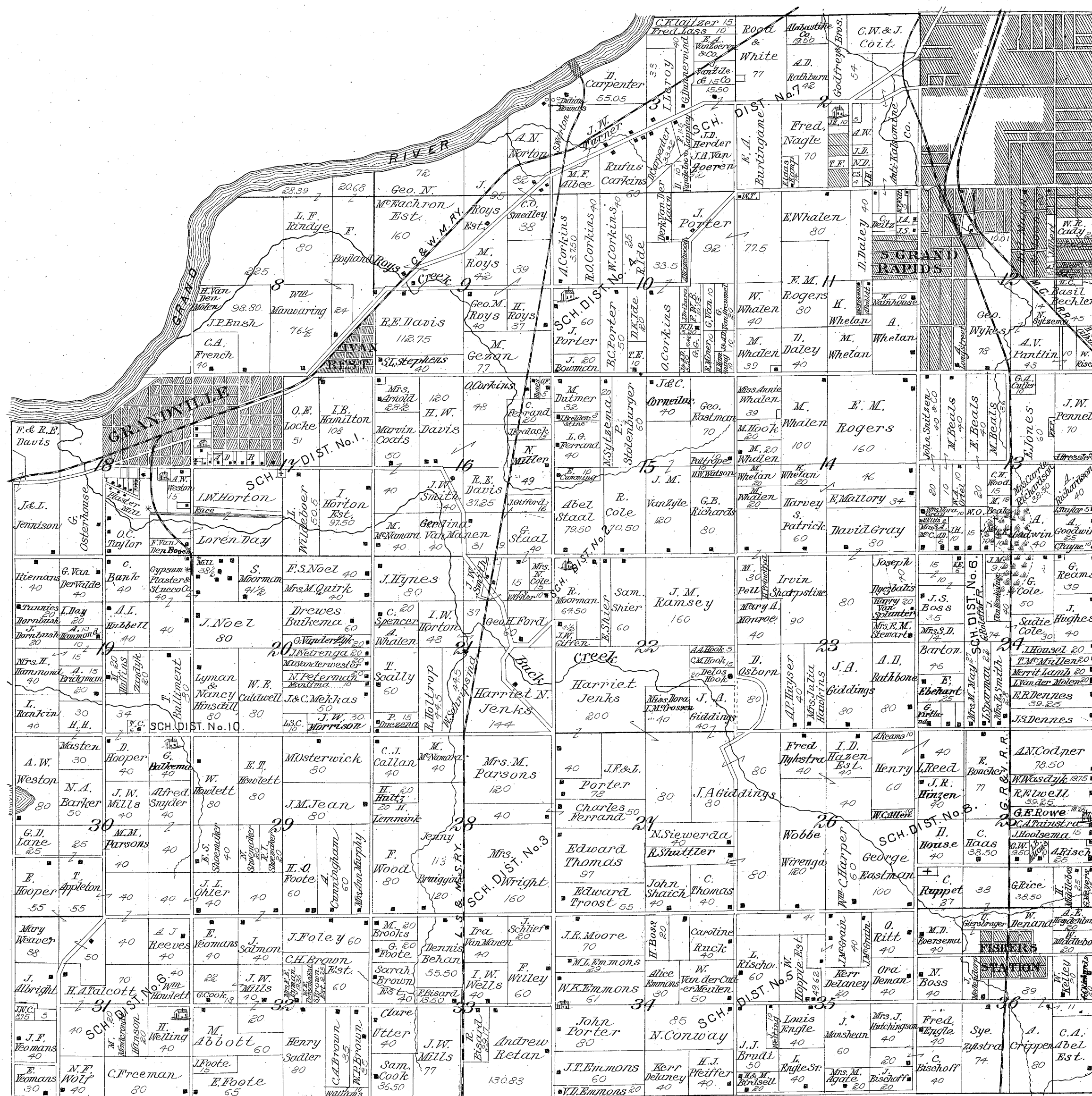








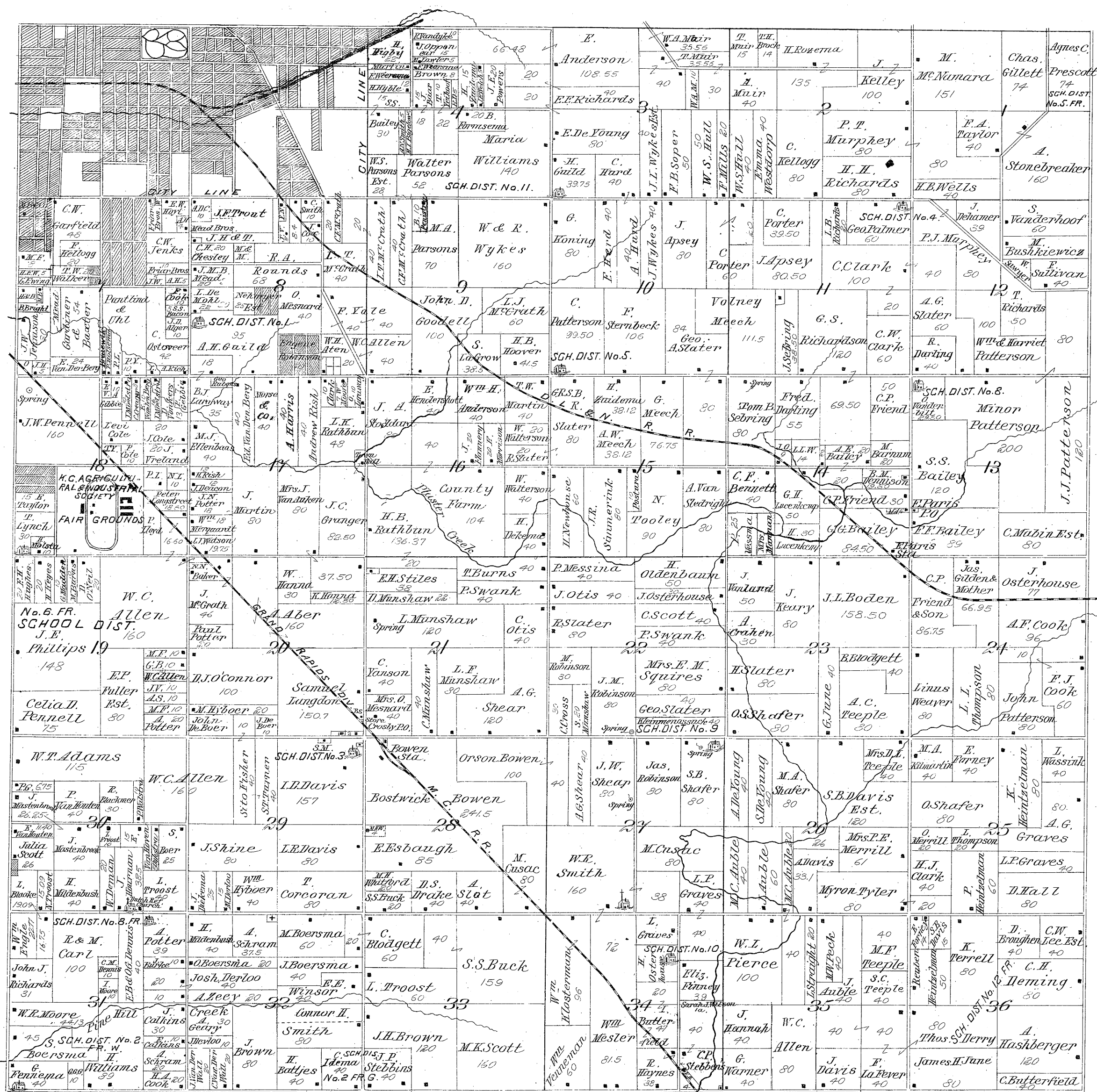
MAP OF WYOMING TOWNSHIP  
Township 6 North Range 12 West





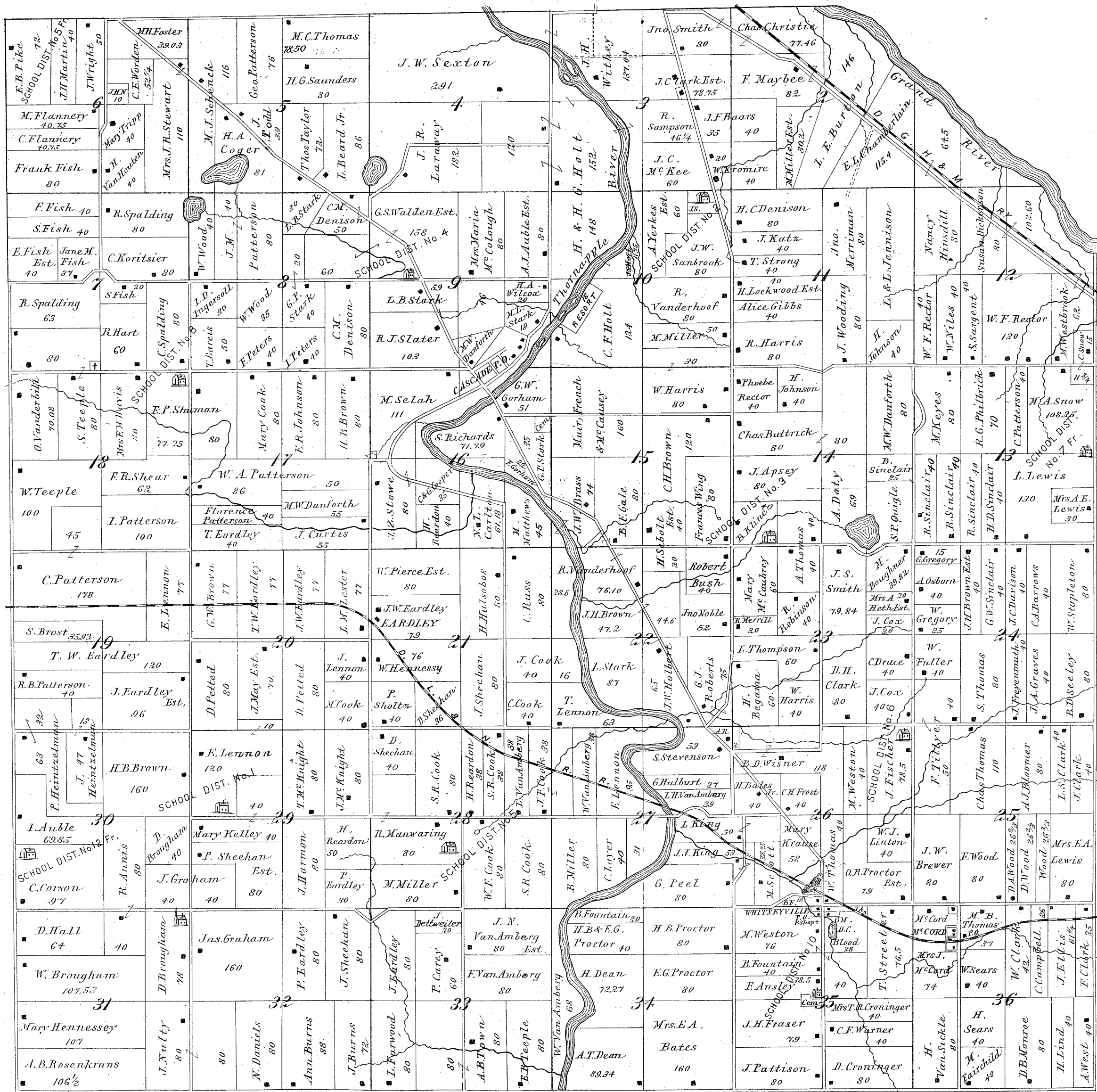
# MAP OF PARIS TOWNSHIP

Township 6 North Range 11 West



# MAP OF CASCADE TOWNSHIP

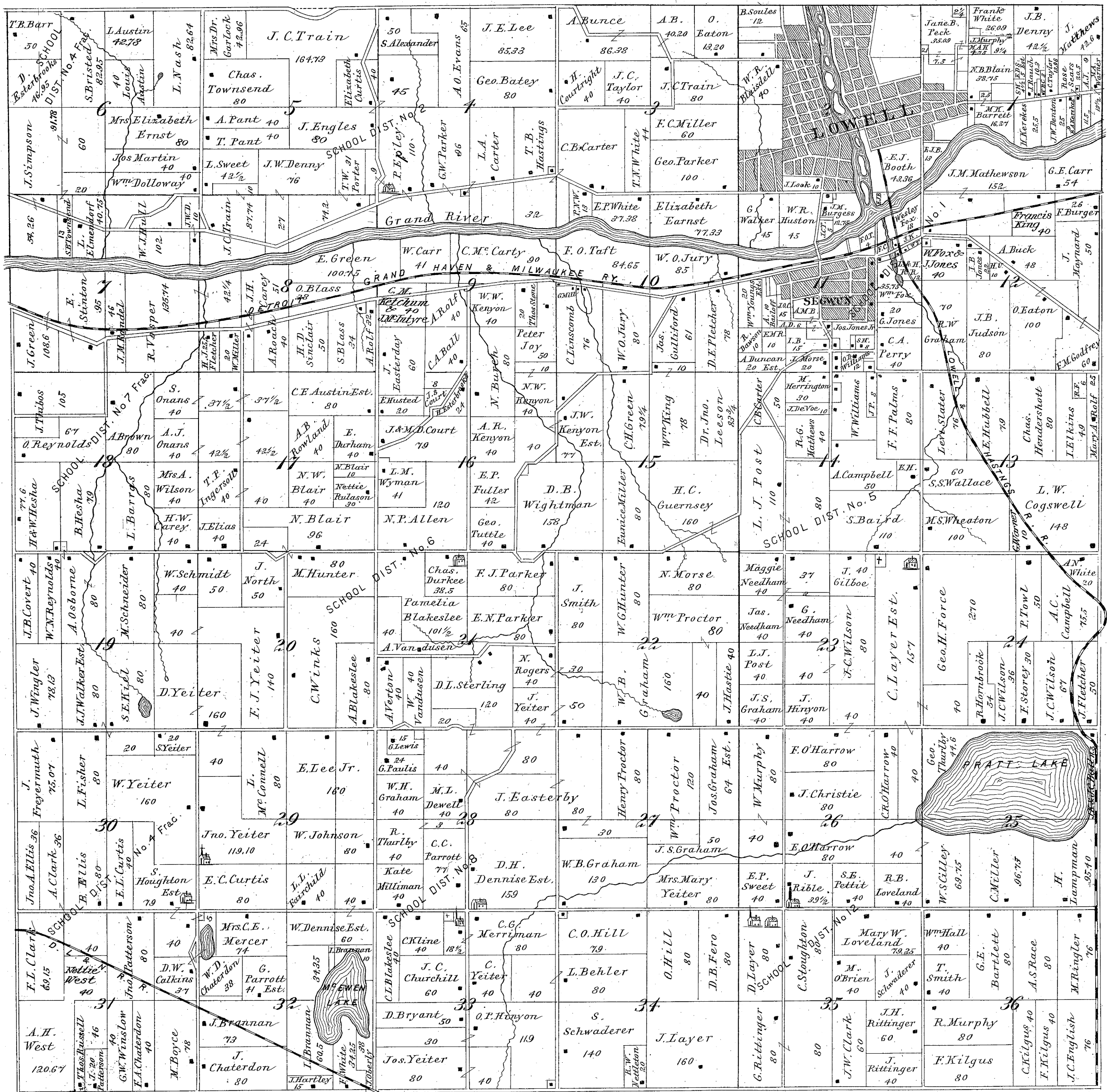
Township 6 North Range 10 West





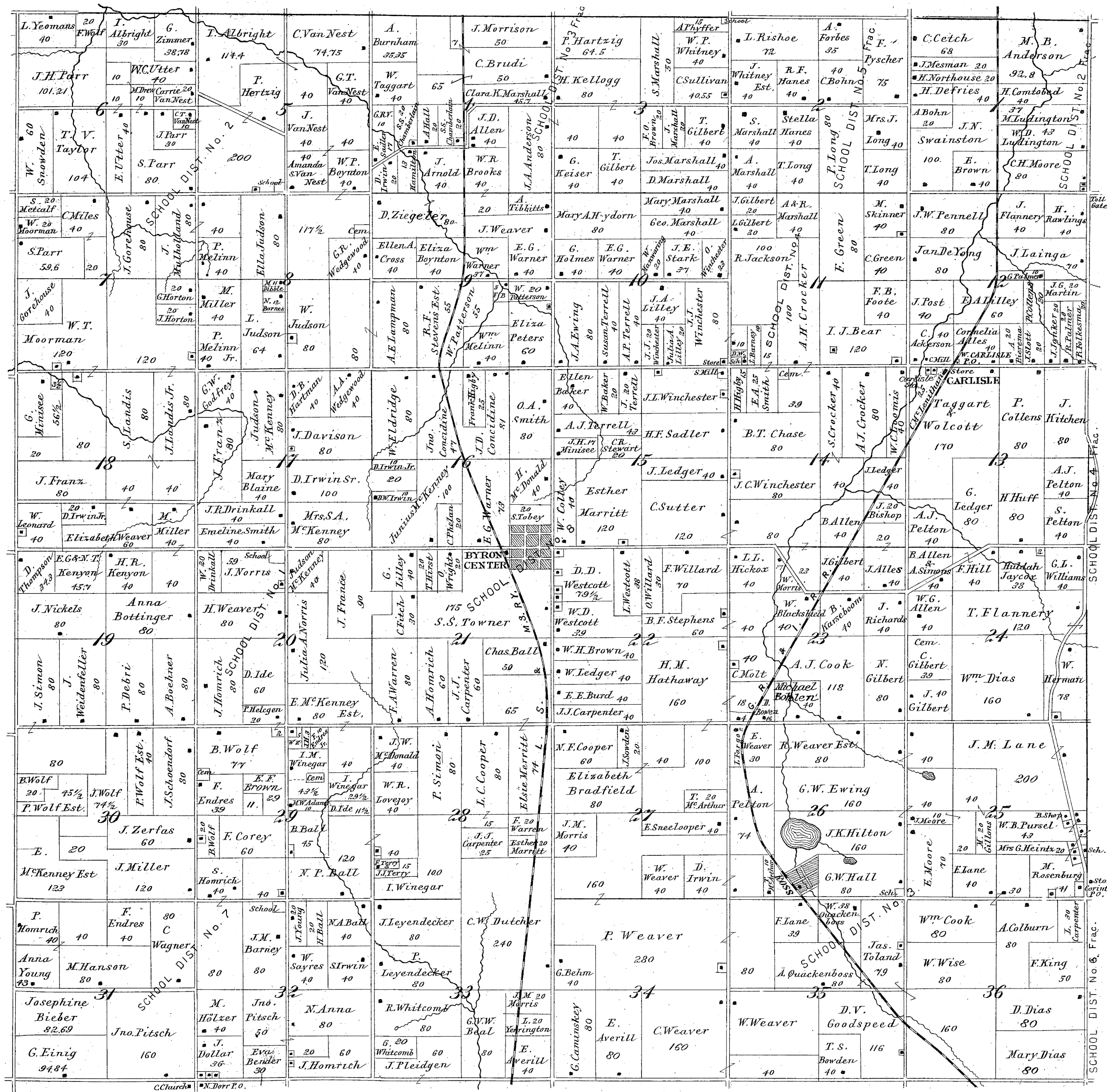
# MAP OF LOWELL TOWNSHIP

Township 6 North Range 9 West

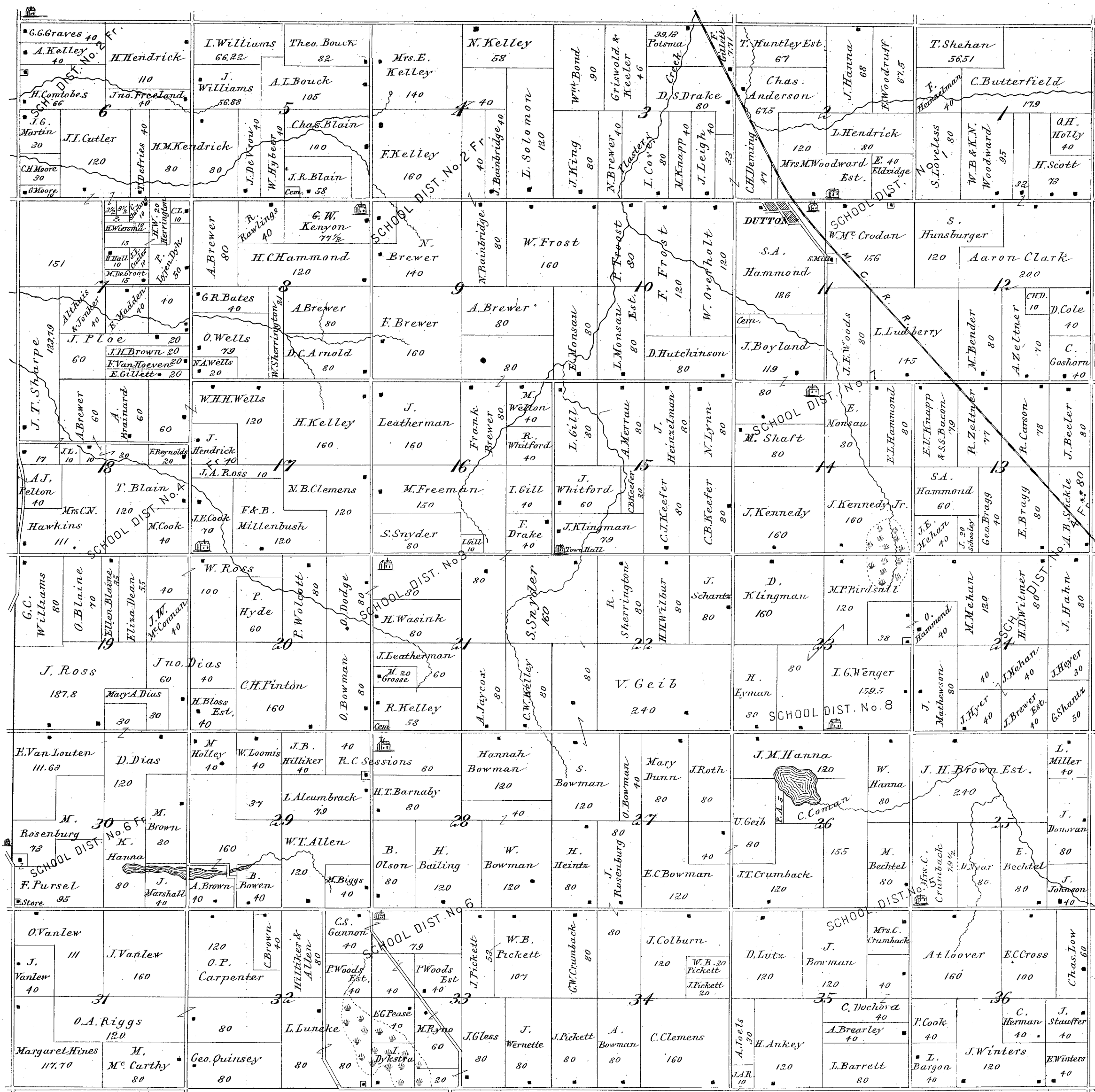


MAP OF BYRON TOWNSHIP.  
 Township 5 North Range 12 West.

Township 5 North Range 12 West

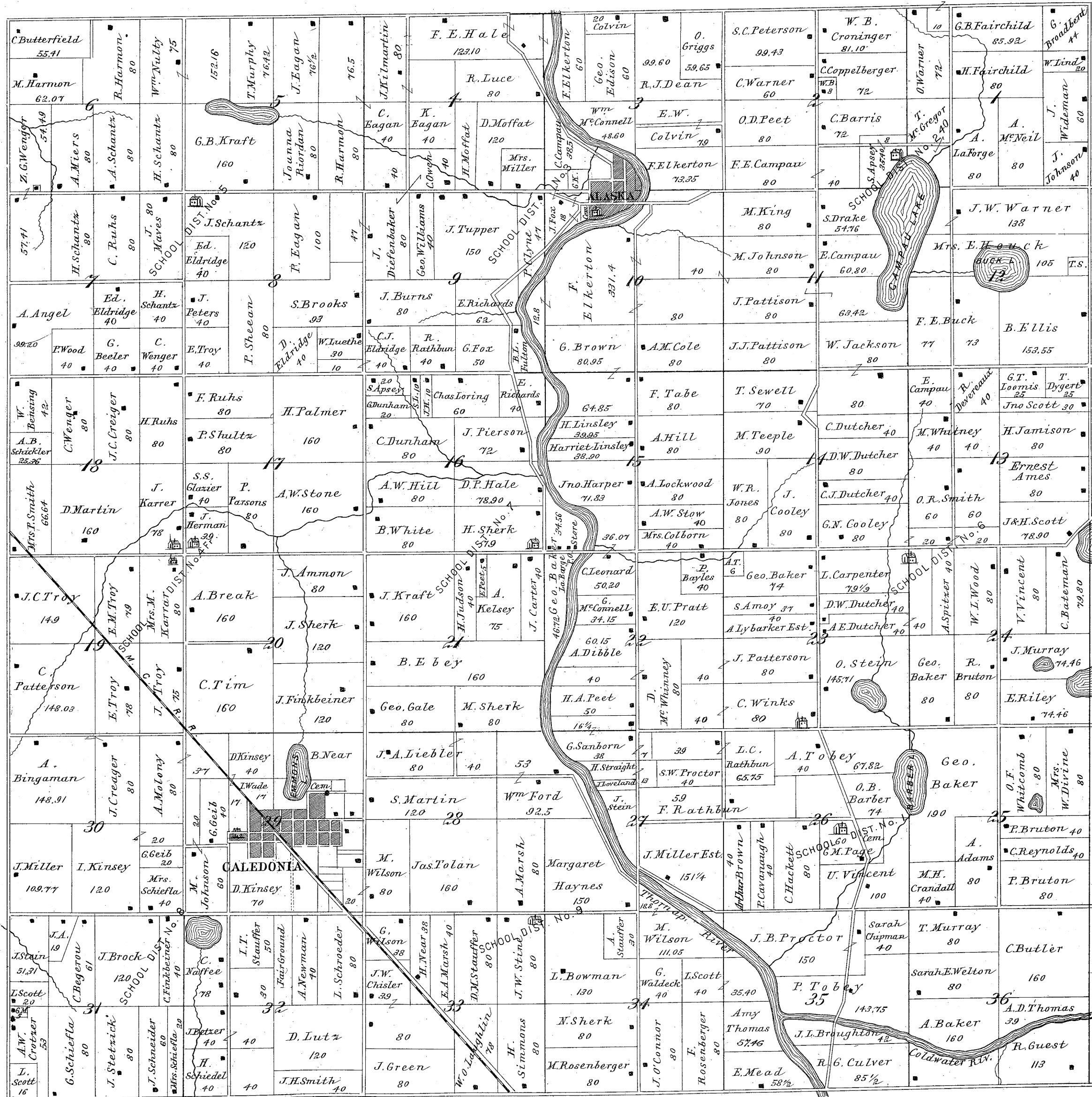




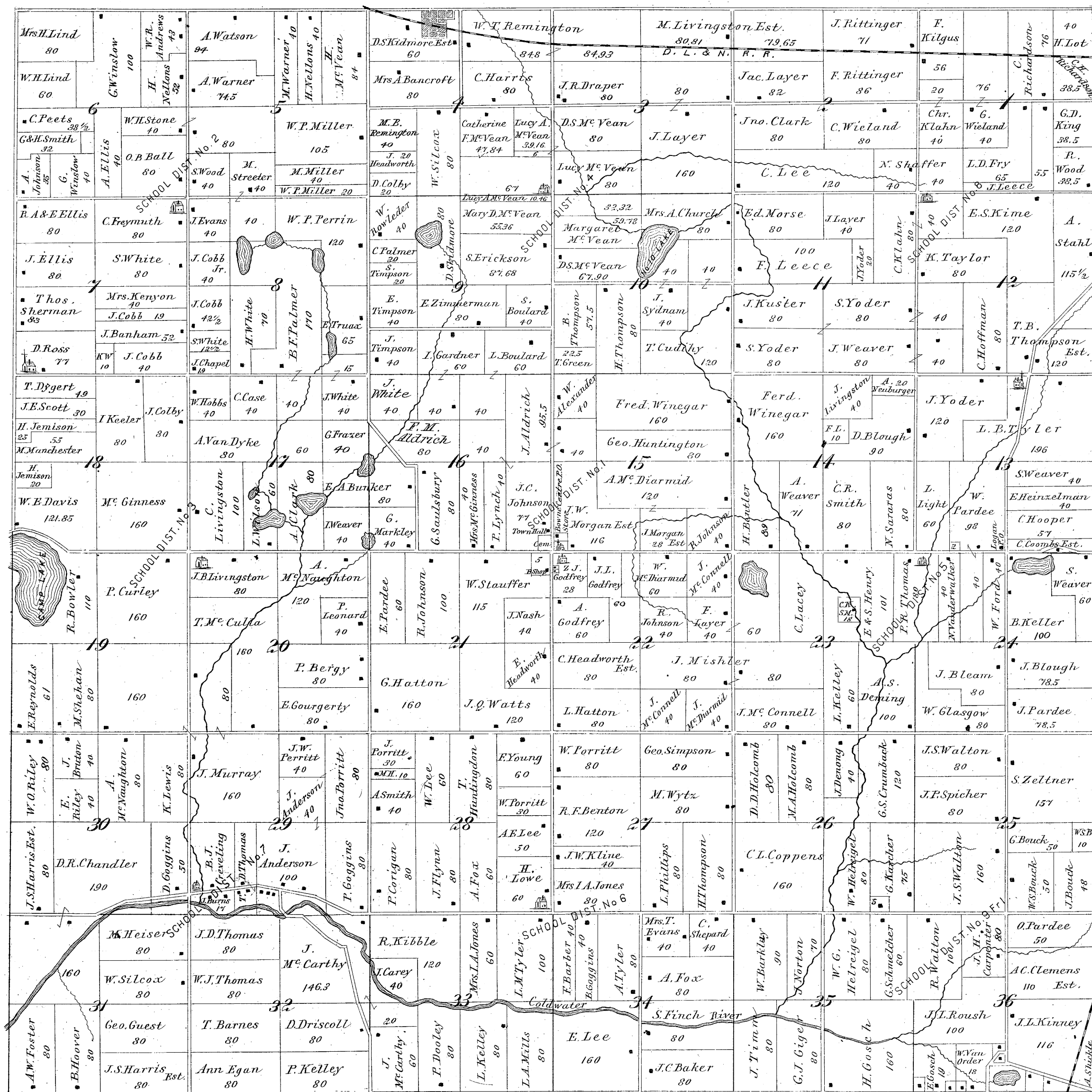


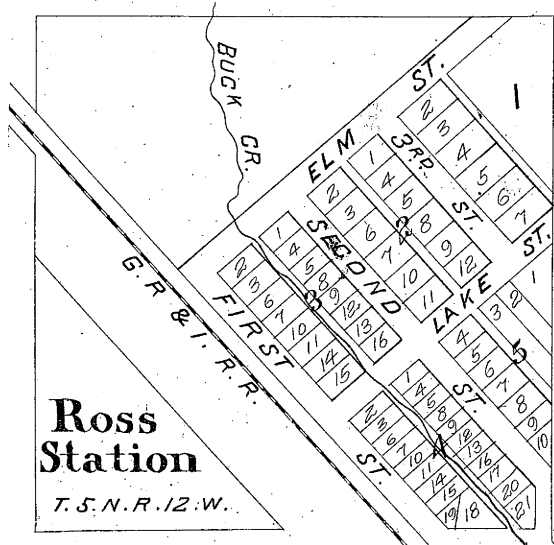
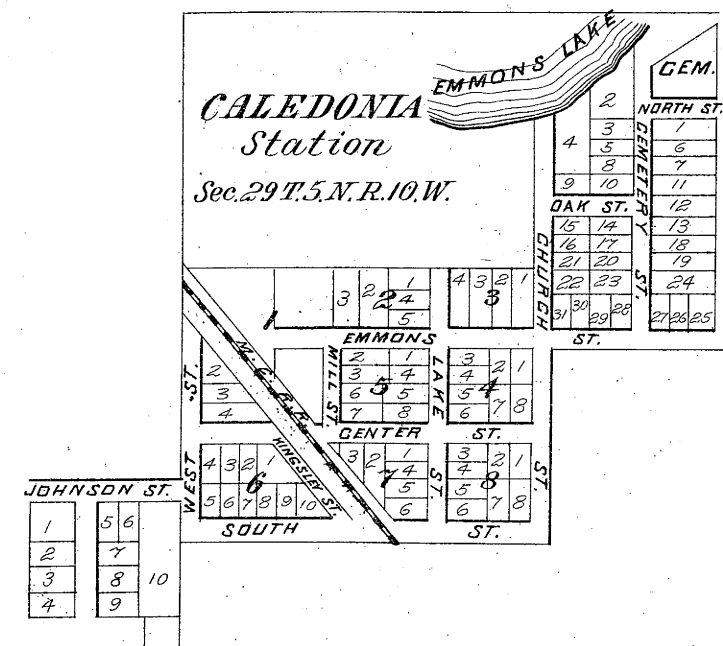
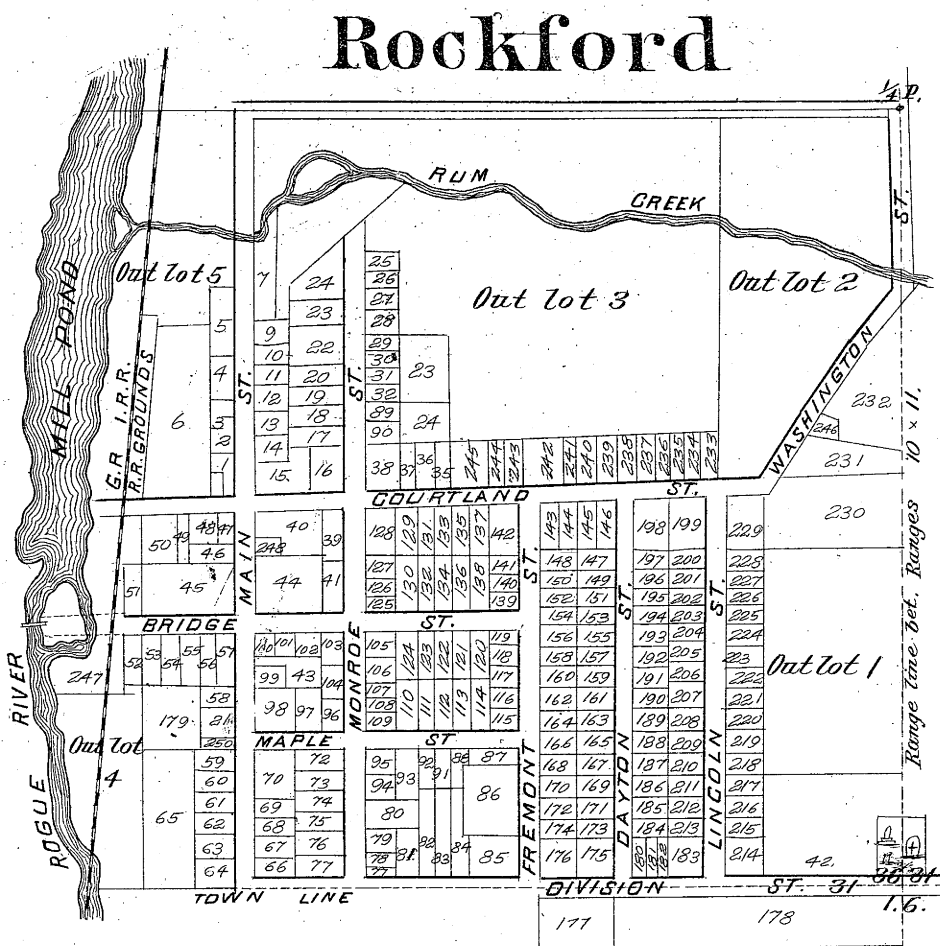
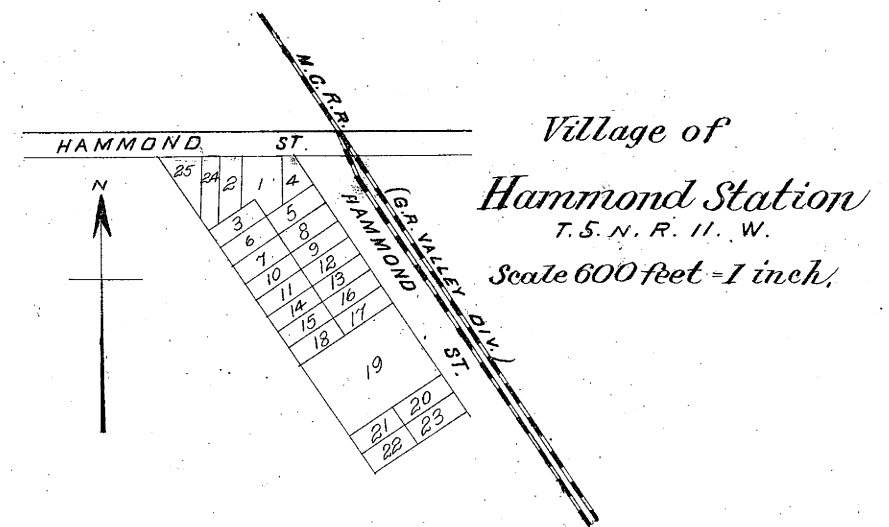
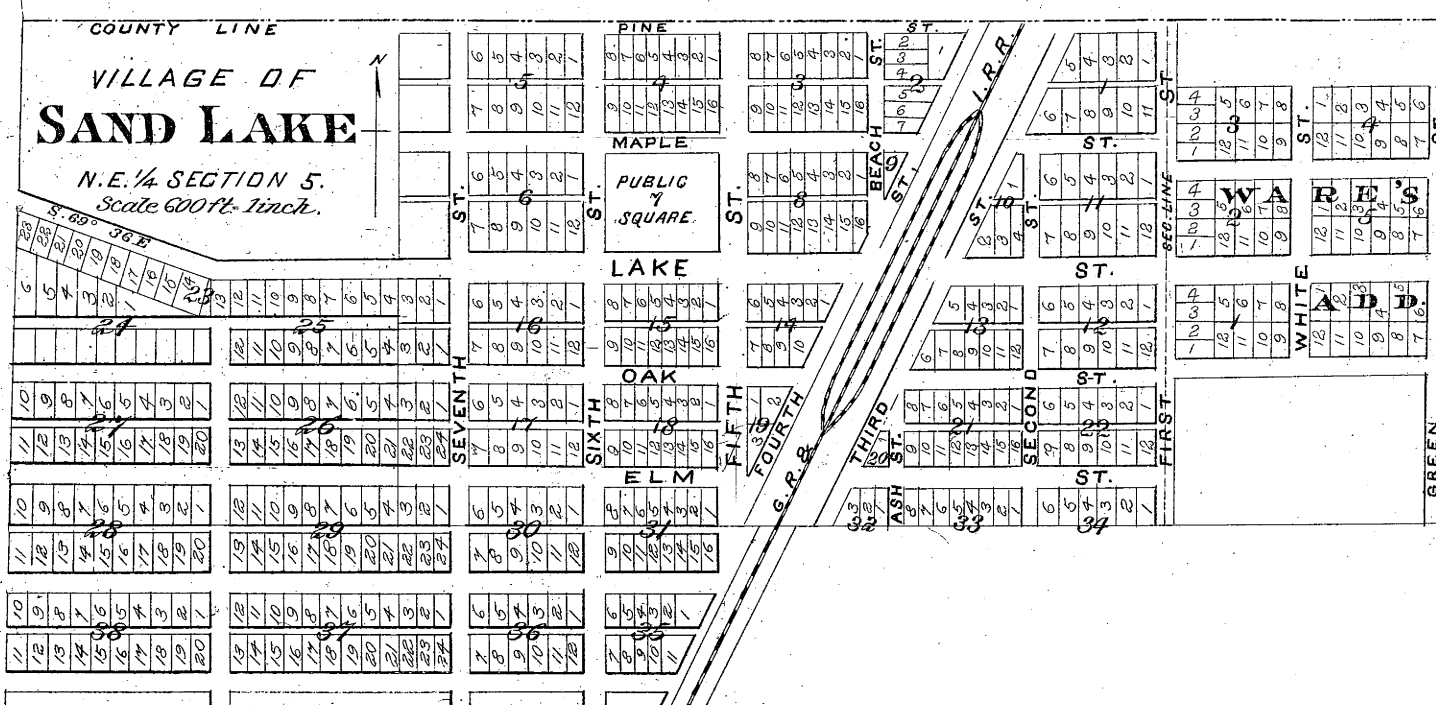
# MAP OF CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP

Township 5 North Range 10 West

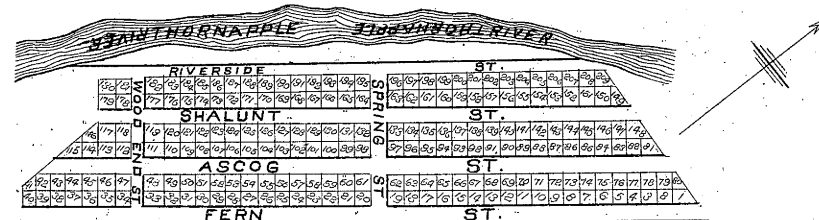




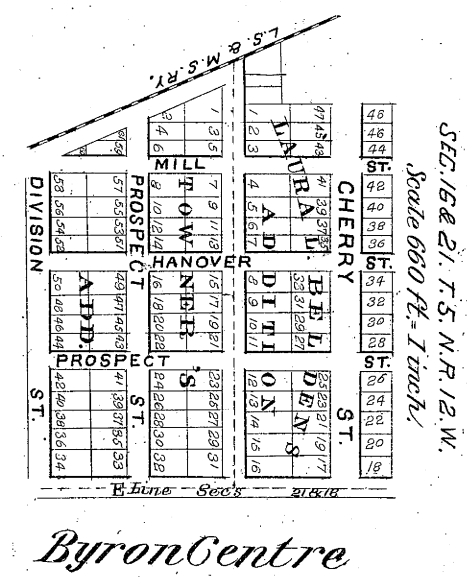




Village of  
**Cascade Springs**



Scale 600 feet to one inch

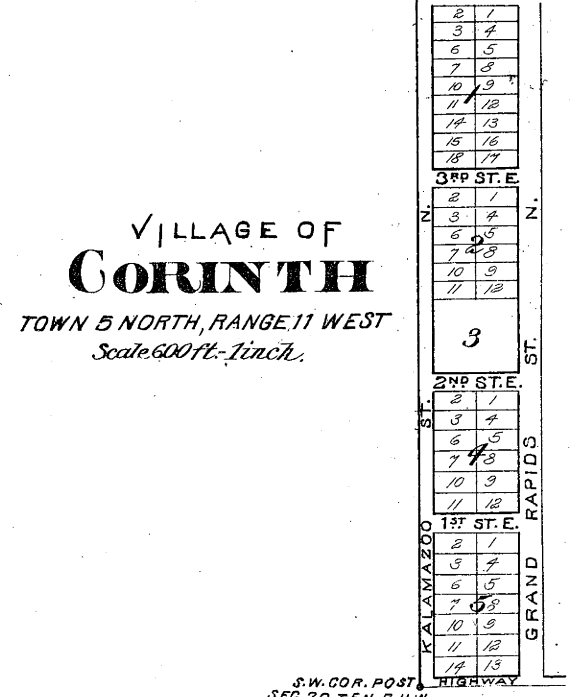
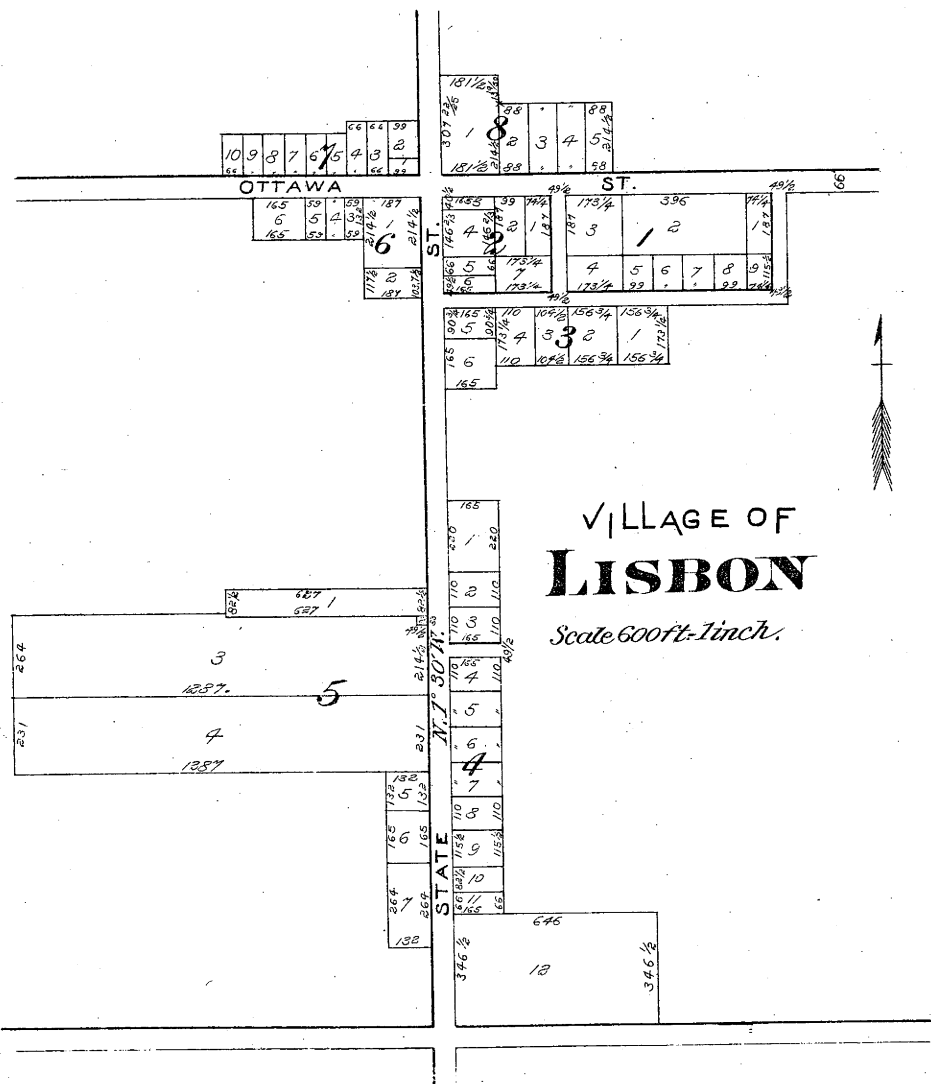
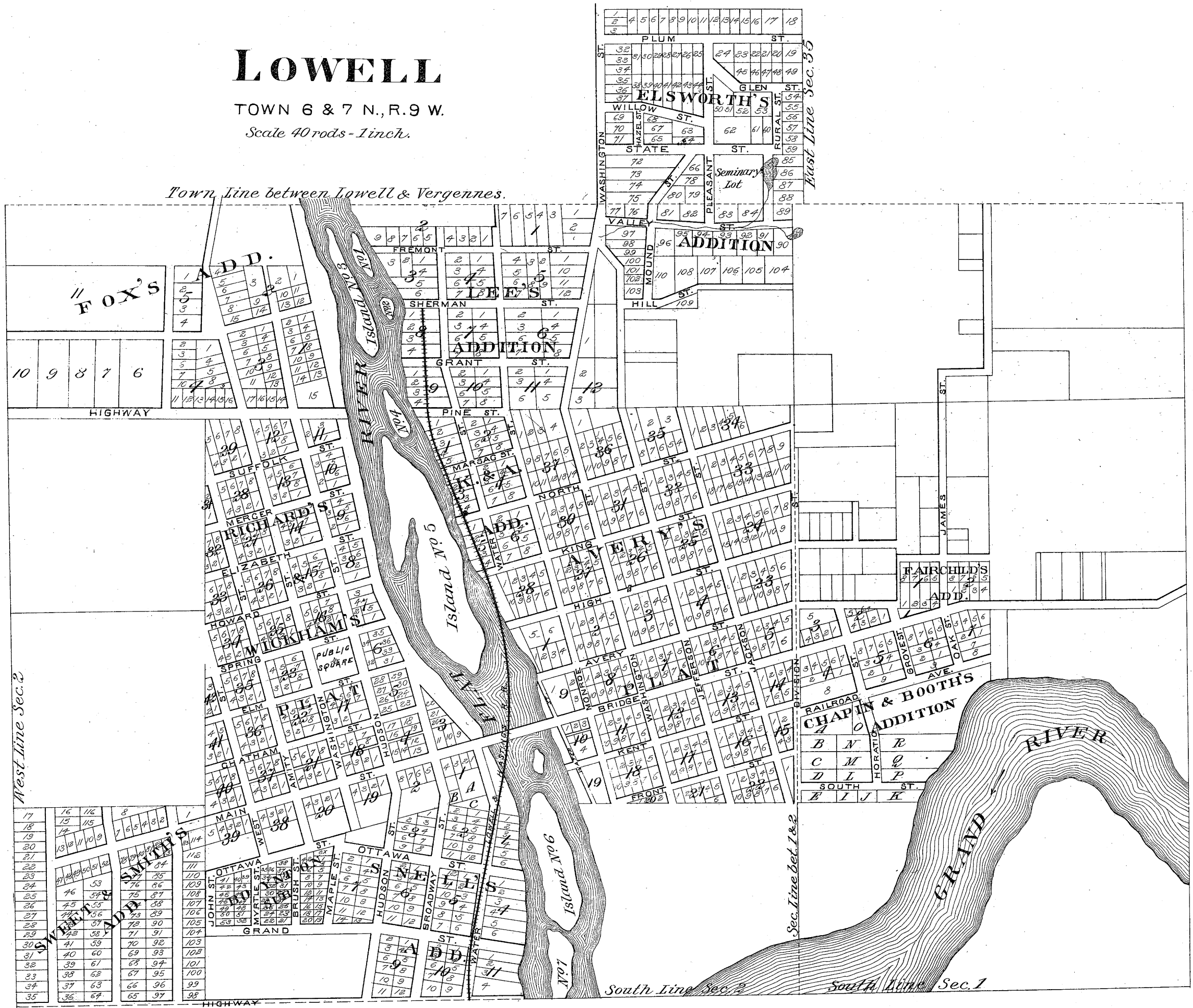




# LOWELL

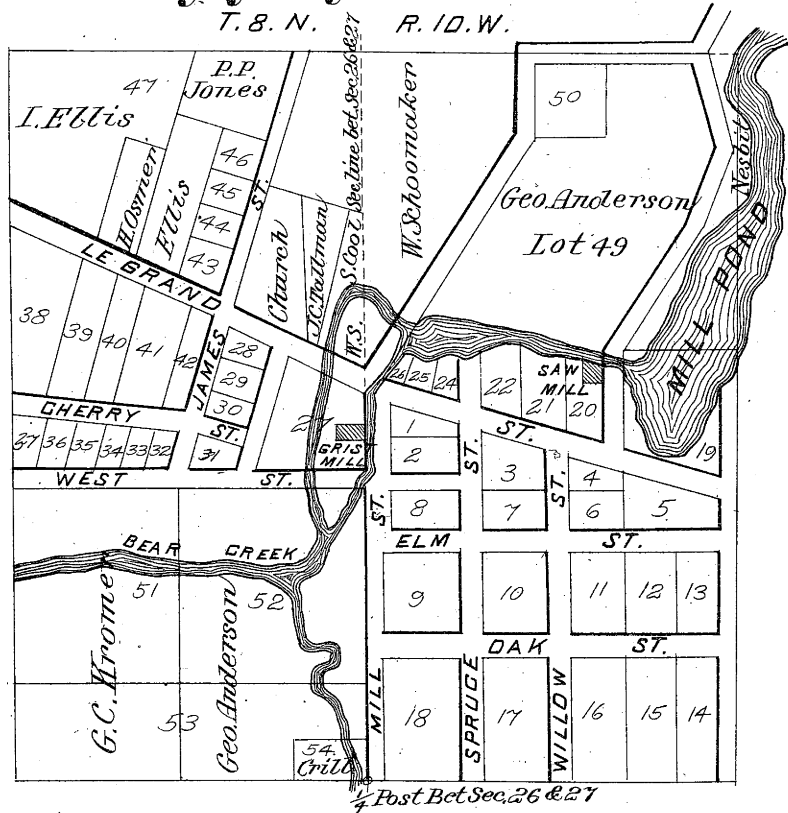
TOWN 6 & 7 N., R. 9 W.

Scale 40 rods - 1 inch.



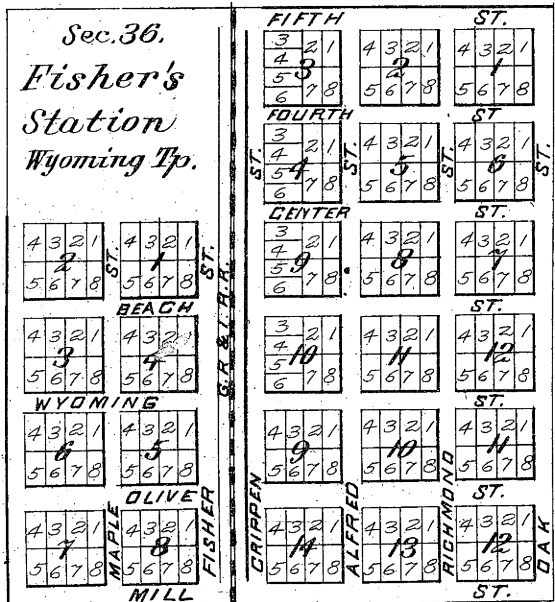
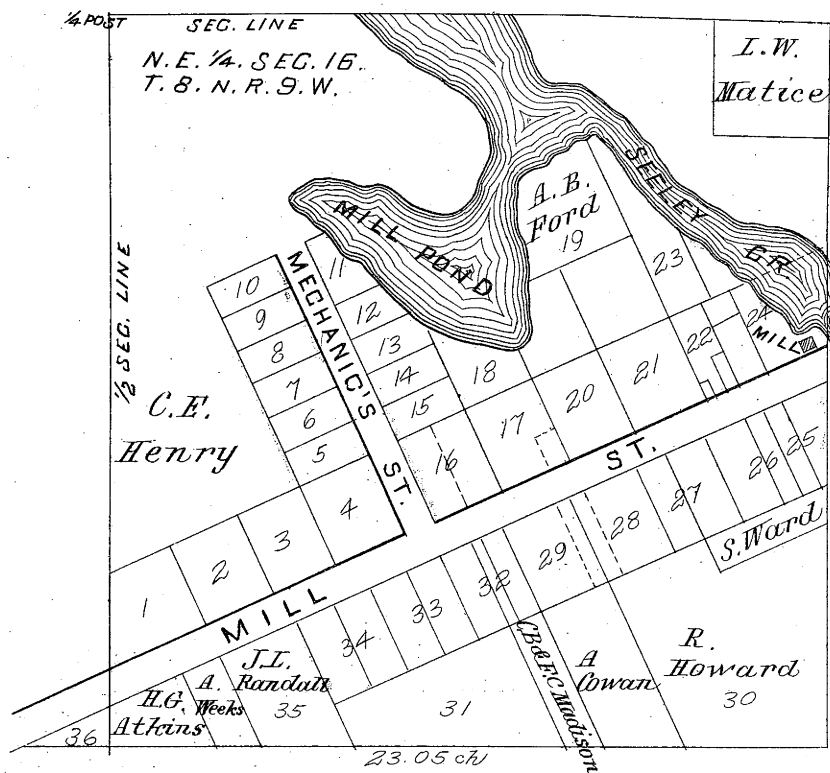
S.W. COR. POST.  
SEC. 35, T. 5 N., R. 11 W.

# CANNONSBURG



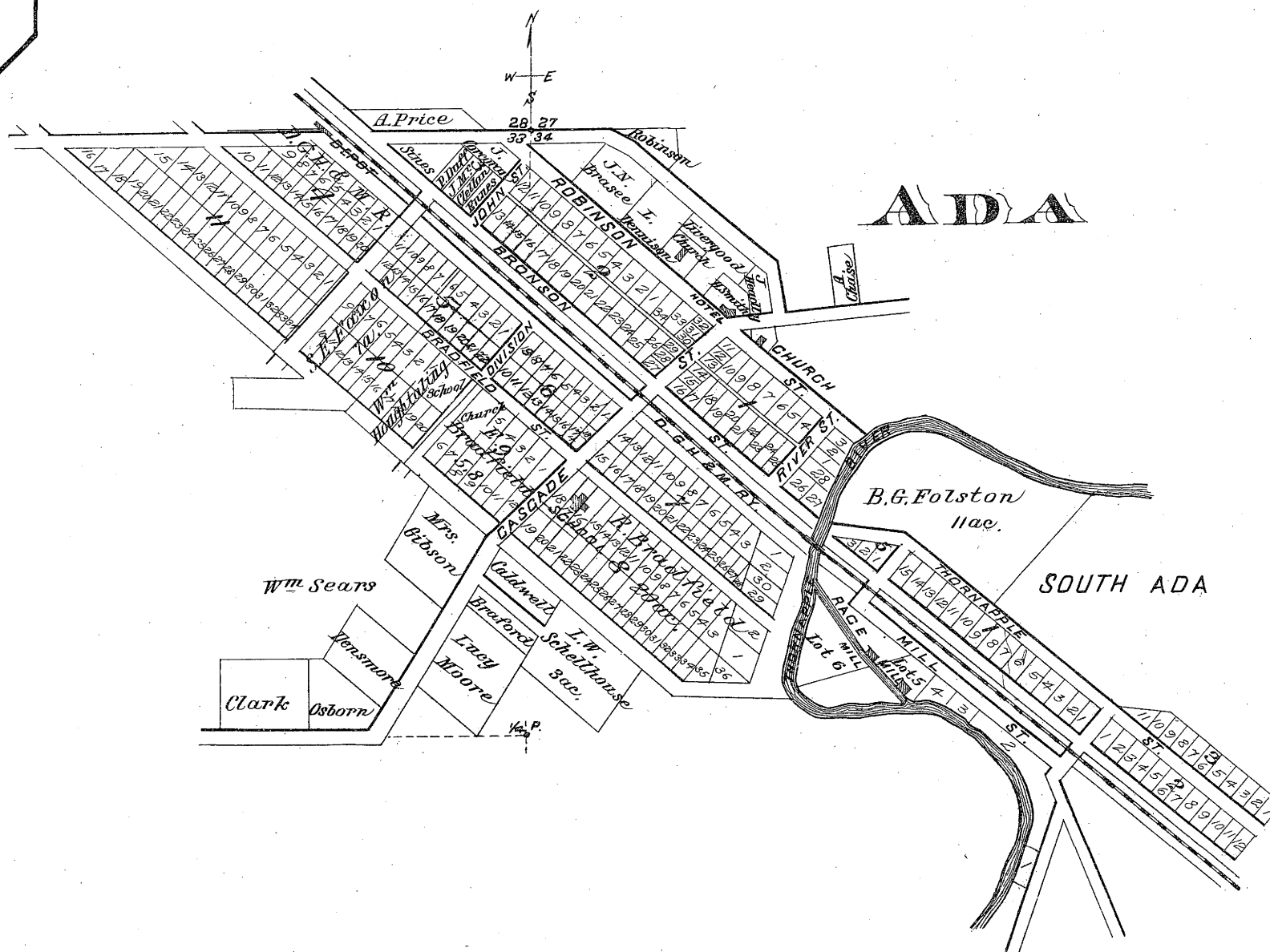
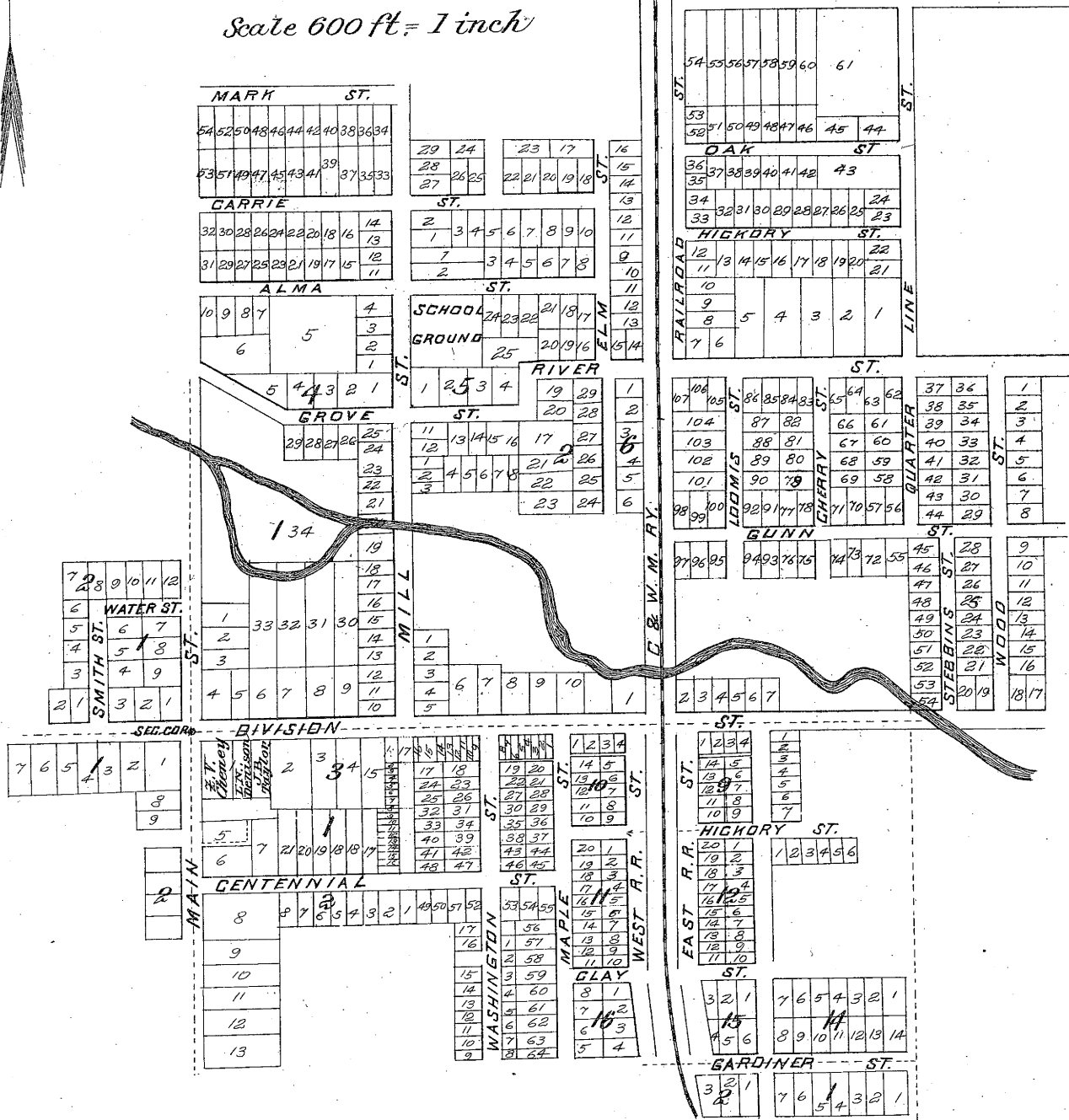
# Grattan Centre

T. 8. N. R. 9. W.

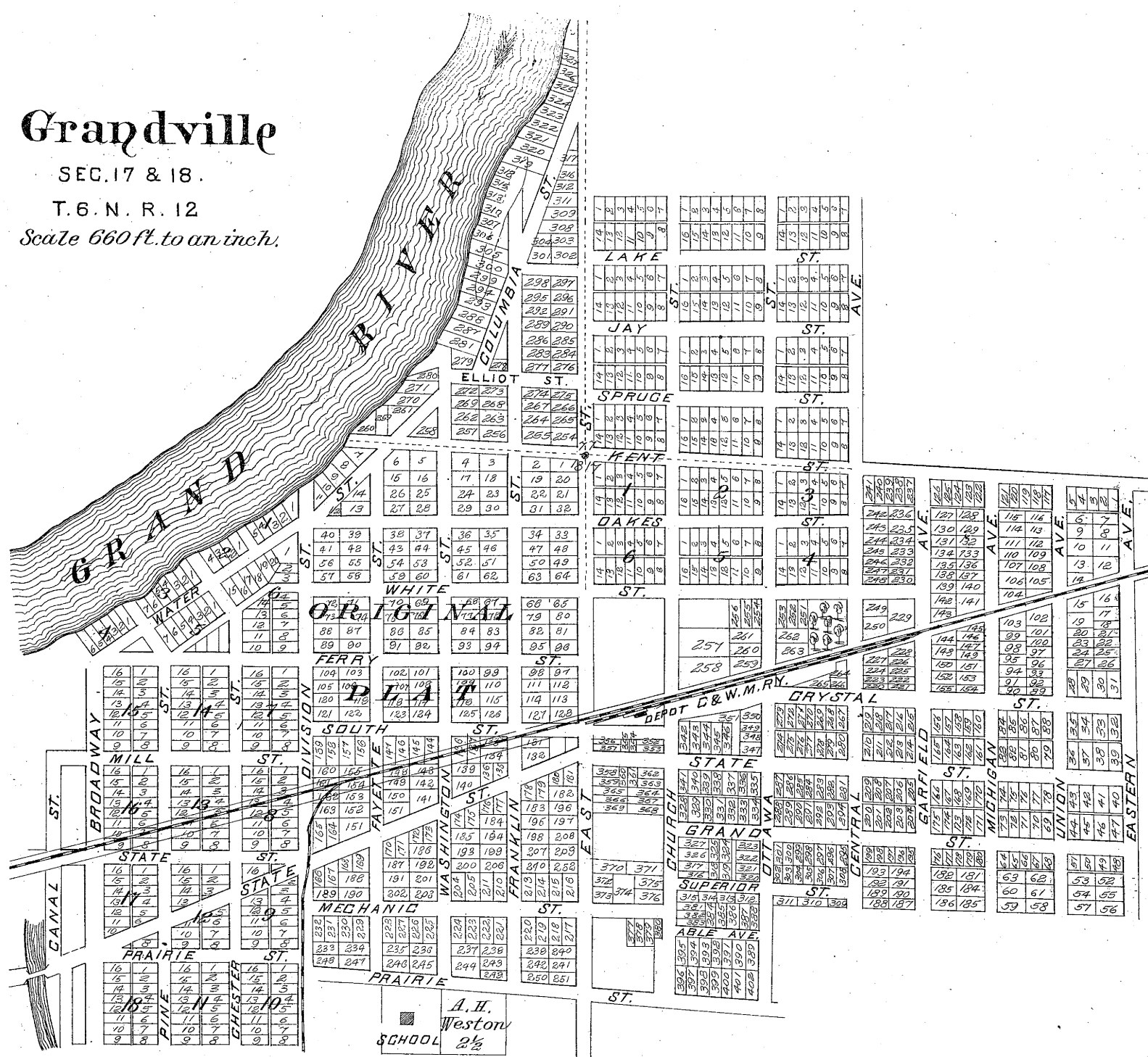


# Village of SPARTA

Scale 600 ft. = 1 inch





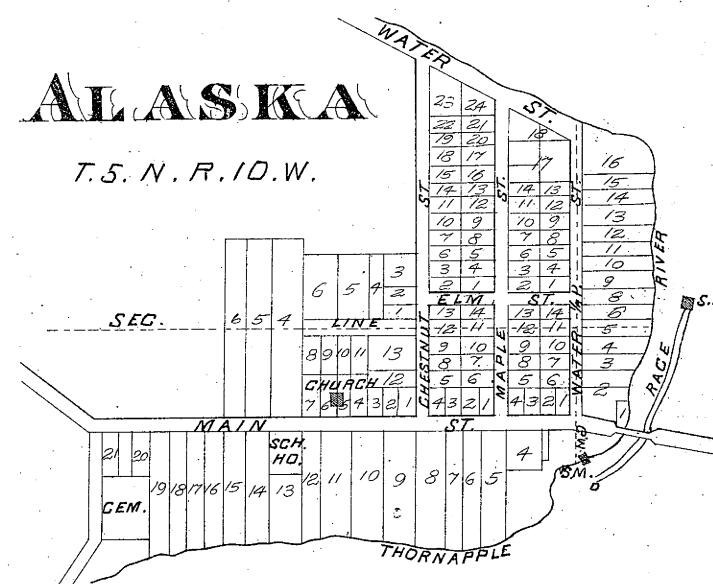


T. 10. N. R. 10 & T. 10. R. 11. W.

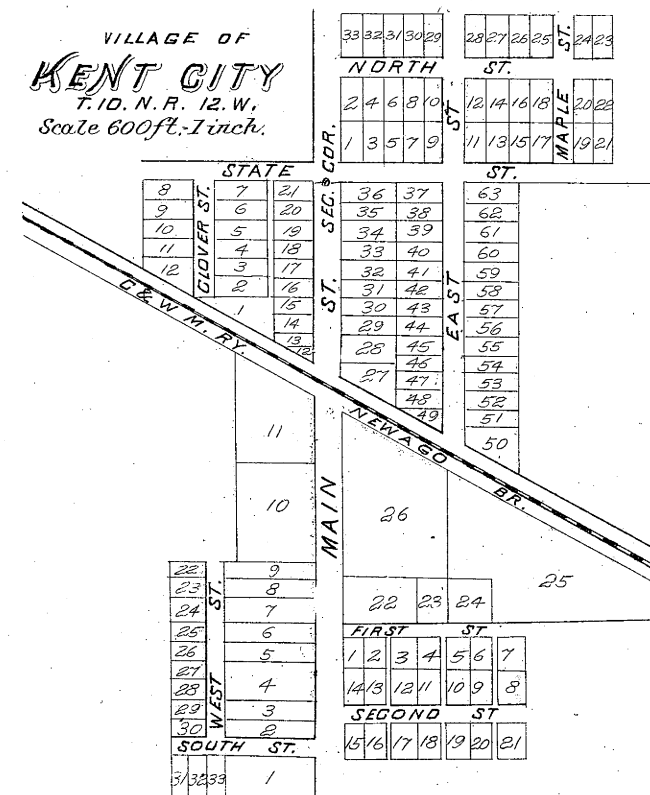


LINE	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
	16															
	GRAND								ST.							
	17	19	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	
ST.	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	
	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	
	DIVISION								ST.							
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	
STATE	46	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	
	46	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	
COUNTY	KENT															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9							
	Scale 40 rods to 1 inch															
	Sec. 30.															

T.5. N. R. 10. W.



T. 10. N. R. 12. W.  
Scale 600ft.-Inch.



# DESCRIPTIVE SKETCH

## OF THE

# System of Government Land Surveys.

When the Government acquired the territory of Michigan there were no subdivisions of the lands, except a few French grants in the southeastern part of the state, and no settlements except on these grants. All the rest was a wilderness located north of the Ohio and Indiana lines, and bounded by the Great Lakes. That these Public Lands might be disposed of to settlers in such a manner as to insure to each man absolute control of a certain portion, the United States divided it according to the plan known as the Government Survey into Townships, Sections and Quarter Sections. The Townships are six miles square, and contain each thirty-six sections, each one mile square. The smallest government description of land is a quarter section.

In dividing the lands the government surveyors established two reference lines, one running directly north and south, and the other running east and west across this. The first is called the Principal Meridian and runs from a point on the south line between Lenawee and Hillsdale counties north to Sault Ste. Marie. The other begins at a point on Lake St. Clair between Wayne and Macomb counties, crosses the meridian at the center of the south line of Ingham county, and touches Lake Michigan at a point between Van Buren and Allegan counties. It is called the Base Line; also the first Correction Line. Great care was taken in the measurement of this line, and upon the accuracy of the work on that line depends the accuracy of the description of the lands. With these two lines as guides and their junction as a starting point, the surveyors measured east and west on the base line and north and south on the meridian, sticking stakes at every mile and half mile point. Beginning on the base line they located a meridian from each six mile post, and then run parallels to the base line from each six mile post on the principal meridian. These lines divided the territory into six mile square lots, which are called townships. They are designated in the survey by numbers and not by names as we commonly know them. Here again the meridian and base line play important parts. The townships are reckoned as being so many east or west of the principal meridian, and so many north or south from the base line. Any line of townships situated in a north or south line is called a Range and the number of the range is the number of lines it is from the principal meridian. By consulting the state map the reader will see that the east line of Kent county is exactly eight full townships west of the principal meridian, so the line of townships on the east side of the county is in Range 9 West. The next line in Range 10 West. The next in Range 11, and the western line in Range 12 West. Looking again he will see that the southern line of the county is just four full townships north of the base line, so the southern tier of townships would be the fifth townships north of the base line, the next tier the 6th north, etc., Bowne township in the Government's books, in all legal papers relative to lands therein, and in the assessment rolls is described as Town 5 North, Range 9 West. While Tyrone would be Town 10 North, Range 12 West.

Theoretically the townships are square, but practically, owing to the convergence of the meridians as they approach the poles, the northern line of a township is a little shorter than the southern. To overcome this irregularity and to leave as many as possible of the townships square, the surveyors made all the narrowing to come on the line of townships next east of the meridian, and at intervals established new base or correction lines, from which they measured the territory north as they measured that north of the base line up to the correction line. Looking at the map of Michigan again the reader will observe that the townships next east of the meridian grow narrower as they go north of the base line till they reach the south line of Ogemaw county. A second base line was established there, beginning at a point on Saginaw Bay between Arenac and Iosco counties, and ending on Lake Michigan between Mason and Manistee counties. The third correction line begins on Thunder Bay, just south of Alpena City, and ends on Lake Michigan, just north of Leland in Leelanaw county. So, unless there are errors in the surveyors' work, all of the townships except those in Range 1 East are square.

The next division of the land after a township had been laid off was into sections. This was done by running parallels and meridians from the mile posts mentioned above. These divided

the townships into squares one mile on a side. Then the surveyors measured around each section and stuck the half mile stakes, and were supposed to measure east and west and north and south through each section, so as to stick a stake in the center. As these stakes stuck by the surveyors would in time be destroyed, they sought permanently to preserve their location, and did this by means of marks on growing trees, which were called witness trees. To mark the location of each mile post, or section corner, as we shall hereafter designate it, four young thrifty trees in its immediate neighborhood were selected; their directions and exact distances from the section corner carefully recorded. Then from a space on each tree the bark was carefully peeled and with a surveyor's witness tool the number of the section, also the number and range of the township, were cut into the wood. For example, the trees on section 5 of Bowne marking the corners of that section would have on them the following: S. 5, T. 5 N. R. 9 W.

Sometimes these witness trees were long distances from the section corners, and where no trees were growing, on prairies for example, other means had to be adopted to witness the location of the section corners. In the same manner the half mile, or quarter stakes, had to be witnessed, only two trees being used in that case, however. The record of these surveys was called field notes; the originals are on deposit in the State Land Office, together with the plats of the original surveys. Copies of the field notes and plats of surveys are in the office of the Register of Deeds in each county.

Not all the land could be measured and described by straight lines and right angles, owing to the various streams and bodies of water in the territory. The lines of such lands lying along the bodies of water were said to be meandered, i. e., measured along the line of the water, and the reference stakes set along such lines were called meandering stakes and witnessed in the same manner the section or quarter stakes were. One that we have in mind is on the north side of Grand River, on the county line between Kent and Ionia counties, and a certain piece of property is described as "Beginning at a certain meandering stake on the north side of Grand River, on the county line, running thence north," etc.

The Government surveyors, as said above, divided the land into as small parcels as quarter sections. The subsequent subdivisions have been into  $\frac{1}{2}$  of  $\frac{1}{4}$  sec.,  $\frac{1}{4}$  of  $\frac{1}{4}$  sec.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of  $\frac{1}{4}$  sec., and  $\frac{1}{4}$  of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of  $\frac{1}{4}$  sec.

It may be interesting to note that in Texas the United States had nothing to do with the lands. All the lands there, by the terms of her admission to the Union, remained the property of the State. The unit of measurement there is the *vara*, a Spanish unit, and is about  $33\frac{1}{3}$  inches long. The rod is not used in the measurement of lands, nor is the section. In the Western Reserve, in Ohio, the sections are five miles square.

### SECTION 16,

OR WHY SECTION 16 IS CALLED THE SCHOOL SECTION.

That there may be no misunderstanding of the source and use of the Primary School Fund, we quote from the laws of the State and the State Constitution. A careful reading of the parts quoted will fully answer the questions that may occur:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That section numbered sixteen in every township of the public lands, and where such section has been sold or otherwise disposed of, other lands equivalent thereto, and as contiguous as may be, shall be granted to the State for the use of schools. (Howell I, p. 37.)

### ARTICLE XIII.

#### EDUCATION.

##### SEC. 2. School Fund.

The proceeds from the sales of all lands that have been or hereafter may be granted by the United States to the State, for educational purposes, and the proceeds of all lands or other property given by individuals, or appropriated by the State for

like purposes, shall be and remain a perpetual fund, the interest and income of which, together with the rents of all such lands as may remain unsold, shall be inviolably appropriated and annually applied to the specific objects of the original gift, grant or appropriation.

SEC. 3. All lands, the titles to which shall fail from a defect of heirs, shall escheat to the State; and the interest on the clear proceeds from the sales thereof, shall be appropriated exclusively to the support of primary schools.

SEC. 4. The Legislature shall, within five years from the adoption of this Constitution, provide for and establish a system of primary schools, whereby a school shall be kept, without charge for tuition, at least three months in each year, in every school district in the State; and all instruction in said schools shall be conducted in the English language.

SEC. 5. A school shall be maintained in each school district at least three months in each year. Any school district neglecting to maintain such school, shall be deprived for the ensuing year of its proportion of the income of the primary school fund, and of all funds arising from taxes for the support of schools.

March 10, 1875. Act 22. Sec. 1:

*The People of the State of Michigan enact,* That all money received into the State Treasury from the sale of lands, and placed to the credit of the University fund, the Agricultural College fund, the Normal School fund, the Primary School fund, or the 5 per cent. Primary School fund, on and after the first day of March, eighteen hundred and seventy five, shall be used in defraying the expenses of the State government.

### RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF LOST CORNERS.

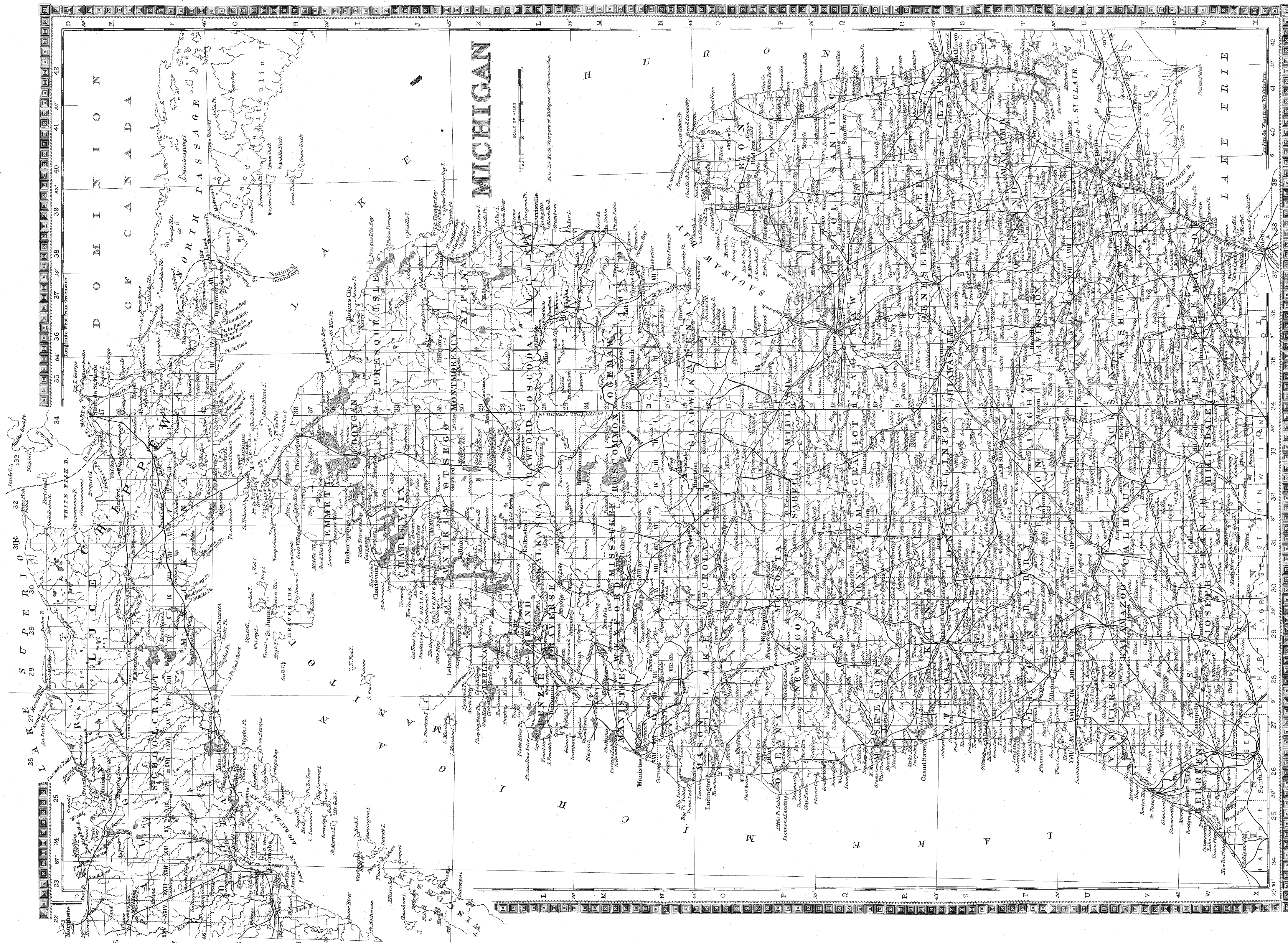
By reason of fires in the newer portions of the State, and carelessness in the matter of permanently marking the corners when the lands were cleared up in the older portions of the State, large numbers of the corners established by the government surveyors, had been lost, and much litigation resulted owing to the difficulty owners had in establishing their lines; so in 1881 the Legislature passed the following law. Comparatively few townships have availed themselves of the benefits of the law, however:

1881. April 1. Sept. 10. Act 73. Sec. 1.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact,* That the boards of supervisors of the several counties, are hereby authorized to establish and perpetuate any government section corners or quarter-posts in their respective counties, which they may have good reason to believe are lost, or are in danger of being lost, by the employment of a surveyor therefor, who shall keep a full and complete record of his work, giving in detail the evidences by which any corner is identified; also the manner in which any lost corner is identified; also the manner in which lost corners are re-established; which record shall be kept in the same book provided by the county for surveyors' records, and kept in the office of the county surveyor, and the record so made and entered by the surveyor aforesaid shall be received as evidence in all the courts in this State wherein any question may arise as to the identification of such corner or corners: *Provided,* that such work shall be done only in such townships where a majority of the voters, voting, shall vote to raise such sum as is required, not exceeding \$250 for any one township, for such work, by any surveyor authorized to do such work, as provided in section one of this act: *And provided further,* that nothing in this act shall apply to lands where section and quarter section lines are already properly established. Such sum to be assessed upon the real estate of such township according to its cash value. Such assessment to be levied and the taxes therefrom collected in the same manner as other assessments and collection of taxes are made.

SEC. 2. The surveyor as above employed shall sink into the earth at all section and quarter-post corners from the surface to a depth of at least three feet, a column of broken brick, charcoal, broken stones, or other easily distinguishable substance, of a diameter of at least three inches, and carefully describe the same in the record of his survey, and also to mark and record new witness trees wherever possible to do so.











# Biographical Sketches.

MARY E. BELLAMY was born in Vergennes, Chittenden county, Vermont, May 20, 1823. Her parents moved to Oswego, N. Y., in 1831, and to Tiffin, Ohio, in 1839. In this latter place Mary was married to Abraham Wolf. Three years later Mr. and Mrs. Wolf came to Michigan, settling in Grattan township, Kent county, on the property where Mrs. Wolf now resides. Mr. Wolf died in the Union army, at Chattanooga, Tenn., in April, 1864, leaving Mrs. Wolf, in her widowhood, to rear a family of five children. Nobly has she borne the care and privations incident to pioneer life, and has reared her children to useful manhood and womanhood, and is enjoying in the evening of her days the fruits of a well spent life.

JOHN W. COOPER, M. D., son of William and Zada Cooper, was born in Oneida county, N. Y., September 19, 1842. At the age of sixteen he entered the Whitestown Seminary, remaining four years. While there he began the study of medicine, graduating at the Albany Medical College at the age of twenty-three. He then entered upon the practice of his profession at North Bay, N. Y., and remained there two years. In April, 1868, he was married to Miss Lucy Whitehead. They came to Michigan and located in the southern part of the State. In the spring of 1870 they went to Jamestown, Ottawa county. In 1873 he came to Grandville, Kent county, where he has built up a large and remunerative practice.

NICHOLAS B. CREVLING was born in Livingston county, N. Y., in 1847. At the age of seven years he removed with his parents to Michigan, settling in the township of Plainfield. When he was 21 years old he engaged in the lumbering business; was very successful. He purchased the farm on which he now resides, one of the finest in Alpine. In 1875 he married Olive Wilson. They have one child, a daughter. In the spring of 1892 Mr. Crevling was elected to the office of Township Clerk. He is a pleasant gentleman, very popular among his townspeople.

FRANK L. FULLER was born at Belding, Ionia county, Michigan, October 11, 1858. After many experiences, filled with stirring incidents, he began his business life as a book-keeper at the age of 12 years. At 21 years of age he became railroad postal clerk between Detroit and Howard City and Toledo and Ludington. He remained in this service four years. He was employed in the lumbering business, and in the First National Bank at Greenville, Mich. He was associated with E. R. Chandler in the bank at Frankfort, Mich., from 1886 to 1888, when he came to Cedar Springs, in this county, and founded the Northern Kent Bank. He has been very successful in the banking business. Mr. Fuller is a young man of magnificent business qualifications and of exemplary character. His business, owing to his careful management and well-known integrity, is rapidly increasing. He is also an extensive dealer in real estate, and is agent for the leading fire insurance companies.

MAX M. GAIS was born in Newkirch, Germany, October 12, 1841. He came to America with his parents in 1853, and settled in Steuben county, New York. From that place they moved to Caledonia, New York, in 1854, and in 1856 they came to Grattan, Michigan. At the age of twenty-three he married Caroline Dumbart, of Grand Rapids. In the fall of 1864 he entered the army, quitted it in June, 1865, when he settled on section 25, Grattan. He lived successively in Rockford, Plain-

field, Harrison county, Indiana, and Ionia, Michigan, and now lives on the old homestead in Grattan. Mr. Gais is a gentleman of intelligence and pleasing address.

JAMES HILL, son of John and Mary Hill, was born in England, August 31, 1835. At the age of 16 years he came to Canada, landing in Quebec. He came to Michigan in 1859, settling first in the city of Grand Rapids, and afterwards in Alpine, in 1862, where he still resides. The following year, 1863, he was united in marriage to Mary A. Snowden, by whom he has had three children, two daughters and a son. One of his daughters died in 1891. Mr. Hill has been supervisor of Alpine for ten years. He is still in the prime of life, with apparently many years of usefulness before him. He is a genial, pleasant gentleman, well worthy of the success he has achieved.

AARON H. HILLS was born in Bennington, Vermont, in 1823. In 1838 he came to Grand Rapids with his parents, and in the fall of the same year settled in Alpine township. In 1852 he married Miss Nellie C. Caton. They have been blessed with five children, four daughters and one son. In 1840 Mr. Hills bought a fine farm near Alpine Station, where he still lives. He is a stockholder and director of the Alpine graveled road.

NELSON HOLMES, son of Abraham and Sally Holmes, was born in New Berlin, Chenango county, N. Y., April 17, 1817. At the age of 19 he came to Michigan, then a Territory, and settled in Macomb county, from whence, in 1846, he came to Grattan township, Kent county, and located the land now occupied by him as a home. In February, 1842, he married Harriet Colton, who died April 17, 1843. They had one son, Edgar. In October, 1844, he married Lucy Button, who parted with him the toils and privations incident to pioneer life in the wilds of Michigan. Death again visited his fireside August 31, 1882. March 26, 1884, he again entered the wedded state, this time with Abby S. Lamberton, with whom he lives in what is considered the finest farm dwelling in the county. Mr. Holmes was the founder and first president of the First National Bank of Greenville, and as a business man and financier ranks high.

EDWARD H. JONES was born in Summit township, Jackson county, Michigan, April 12, 1847. In the fall of 1849 his parents removed to Oakfield township, Kent county, and settled on section 21. At the age of 17 Edward joined the "boys in blue," serving his country until June, 1866. He then returned home and followed the occupation of farming and milling. His mill at Oakfield Center was one of the best in the county. He was twice married.

GIBSON D. RIED was born in Grand Rapids township, July 31, 1838. He lived at home until the breaking out of the rebellion, when he entered the Northern army at the age of 22 years. After many seemingly miraculous escapes from death, he quitted the army and returned to his old home in 1864. In 1866 he removed to Grattan and settled on section 13, where he now resides. In April, 1859, he married Miss Emma M. Wait. They have seven children.

S. BOARDMAN SCRANTON was born in Covington, N. Y., May 31, 1820. At the age of 10 years he came with his parents to Macomb county, Michigan, where he lived until he reached

manhood, when he came to Grattan. He was married to Mahala Squires, of Courtland, May 13, 1849, and settled on section 6 of Grattan. In the spring of 1866 he removed to section 17, residing there until his death, which occurred May 6, 1886. His widow still resides at the old home. Mr. Scranton was the father of two sons, George W. and Clark M., the first of whom is still living.

CHESTER M. SLAYTON was born in Middlesex, Yates county, N. Y., December 26, 1835. His parents lived successively in Middlesex, Perinton and Victor, N. Y. In 1847 the family removed to Grattan, Kent county, Mich. When Chester was 19 years of age he became owner of forty acres of land on section 14 of Grattan, on which he resided until the spring of 1891, when he removed to his present home on the same section. In 1857 he wedded Sarah Ann Purdy, of Grattan. They have had eight children, seven of whom are now living. Mr. Slayton served his country "on the tented field" from 1862 to 1865. His present lovely home is pleasantly situated on the bank of one of the numerous lakes of Grattan.

LYMAN SPAULDING, son of Hiram and Marinda Spaulding, was born in Steuben county, N. Y., September 23, 1833. He remained at home until of age, after which he taught school until he was 24 years old. May 23, 1858, he married Hester A. Adams, and settled at Nunda, Livingston county, N. Y., remaining there two years. He returned to Steuben county and lived there six years. He removed to Michigan in 1866, and settled in Otsego, Allegan county. He went to Plainwell in 1867, and in 1869 moved to Kent county, settling on section 15, Oakfield township, where he resides with his family. Mr. Spaulding is an honored minister of the U. B. Church. Mr. Spaulding and his estimable wife occupy a pleasant home, and are enjoying in the evening of their days the fruits of well spent lives.

G. M. SPENCER was born in Vergennes, Michigan, September 2, 1844. After passing through the common schools at home, he attended school at Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor. He studied medicine, and settled in Grattan in 1869, as a physician, where he has since remained. In 1870 he was married to Eliza Nobles, and has two children, Noble and Ambrose. Dr. Spencer has, by close application to his profession, achieved an honorable success, and sustains a reputation for skill and integrity.

MARGARET TURNBULL was born in Wheatland, N. Y., January 22, 1838. While in her infancy her parents moved to Waterloo, Ontario, where Margaret resided until her marriage to Mr. Robert Turnbull, in February, 1862. She and her husband located in Michigan, coming by team to Ada, where they settled on the farm which she now occupies, on section 5, her husband having died in 1888. Mrs. Turnbull is the mother of three children, one dying in infancy, two, William R. and Margaret A., now living with her.

GEORGE D. WARWICK was born in Hillsdale, Michigan, in 1846. In 1856 he went to Brookfield, Missouri, where he remained until 1876. During this time he traveled extensively through the South. In 1876 he returned to Michigan. His present home is pleasantly situated on the north side of Grand River, in Ada township, where he lives with his mother.

## Historical Sketch of Kent County.

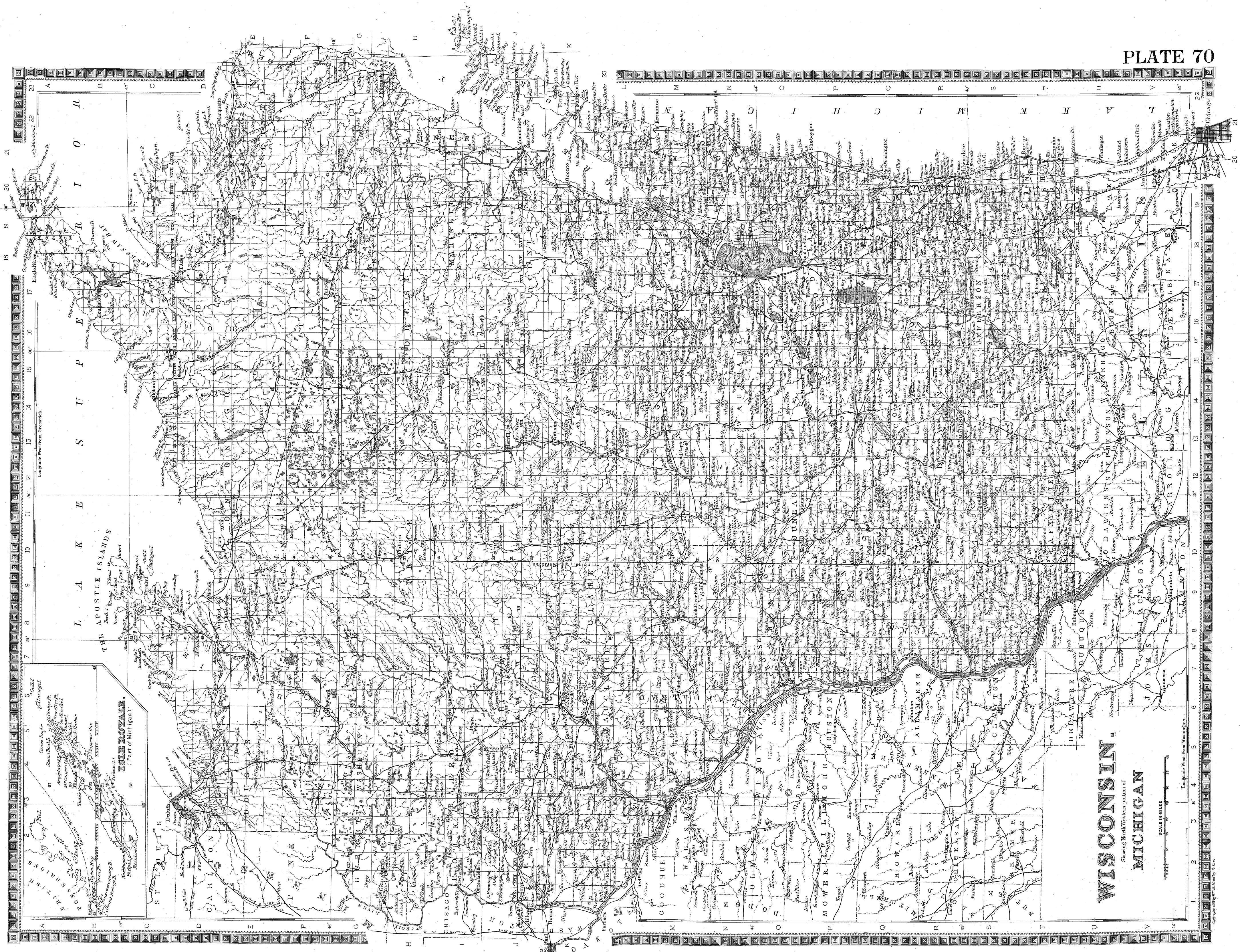
What is now known as Kent county, State of Michigan, was formally detached from Kalamazoo county and formally organized in 1836, and included what are now Ottawa, Ionia and Clinton counties; these were detached in 1837, and the county, composed as it now is of twenty-four townships, has remained unchanged in territory since. It is the second county in the State in population, and one of the largest geographically, containing as it does 864 square miles of land, in one of the fairest, most fertile and fruitful valleys of the Peninsular State, the valley of Grand River, the most considerable river in Michigan. There is but one county between Kent and Lake Michigan, the western boundary of the state. It is in the fourth tier of counties from the southern boundary of the State. According to the United States census of 1890 it had 109,922 inhabitants, a growth for the entire county of fifty per cent. during the preceding decade. There can be no doubt that at this writing, (September, 1893), the population closely approximates 140,000. The county has an assessed valuation, as equalized by the State Board in 1891, of \$50,000,000, having increased \$5,000,000 in the preceding five years, and so is the second county in wealth in the State. It comprises a superior agricultural and horticultural region, a very large proportion of which is under cultivation, as will readily be judged from the contents of this volume—outside the many beautiful lakes with bold banks and the watercourses which so plentifully abound—and its farmers and fruit growers are among the

most successful and prosperous in the Peninsular State, with good buildings, choice live stock (much of it blooded or thoroughbred), good school houses, good roads and bridges, and excellent facilities by railroad for reaching the county seat, and the balance of mankind by rail. The county contains, as its capital, the city of Grand Rapids, which is now estimated to have fully 100,000 population, and is one of the important manufacturing centers of the United States, being foremost in the making of furniture. Its superior water power, its railway facilities, and the high character of the product of its factories have contributed to a very rapid, almost a phenomenal, growth of its industries, thus adding largely to the wealth of the county seat, and of the outlying farming regions, which thus have an excellent and near market for produce of all kinds. In Grand Rapids are located one of the most substantial and largest Court Houses in the State, recently built at a cost of more than \$200,000, the county jail and other usual public structures. Among these should be mentioned the United States building, for the city is the location of the United States Courts and other offices for the Western District of Michigan. Near the city, also, are located the Michigan Soldiers' Home and the Michigan Masonic Home, institutions whose names indicate their purposes and uses. The county has the usual compliment of officials, including two Circuit Courts. It elects two members of the State Senate and five members of the State House of Representatives. It

will be observed that in the several incorporated villages and in the rural regions, school houses are numerous, about 250 in all, and their buildings, as heretofore asserted, are of a high character. The first white man who came into what is now Kent county to remain, to engage in business, was the Hon. Rix Robinson, who began trading with the Indians, locating at the mouth of the Thornapple River in Ada township, in 1821. He could hardly be called a settler, though as soon as he could acquire lands in a region which was long an Indian reservation, he did so. Louis Campau, another Indian trader, came to what is now Grand Rapids, in 1826, and about that time a mission station among the Indians was established. But no deliberate, permanent settlement may be said to have actually begun here until the arrival of Joel Guild and his family, June 23, 1833. So the whole growth of Kent county, which has had no other name since it was first organized, has been within sixty years. The statistics of its population, of its taxable wealth, the suggestion of the character of its soil and productions, of its importance in the state, of its chief city and that city's industries, of the institutions incident to a busy life with a high degree of the comforts of an enlightened community, will all be enhanced by a study of the contents of the preceding pages, which will need no further elucidation or explanation.





















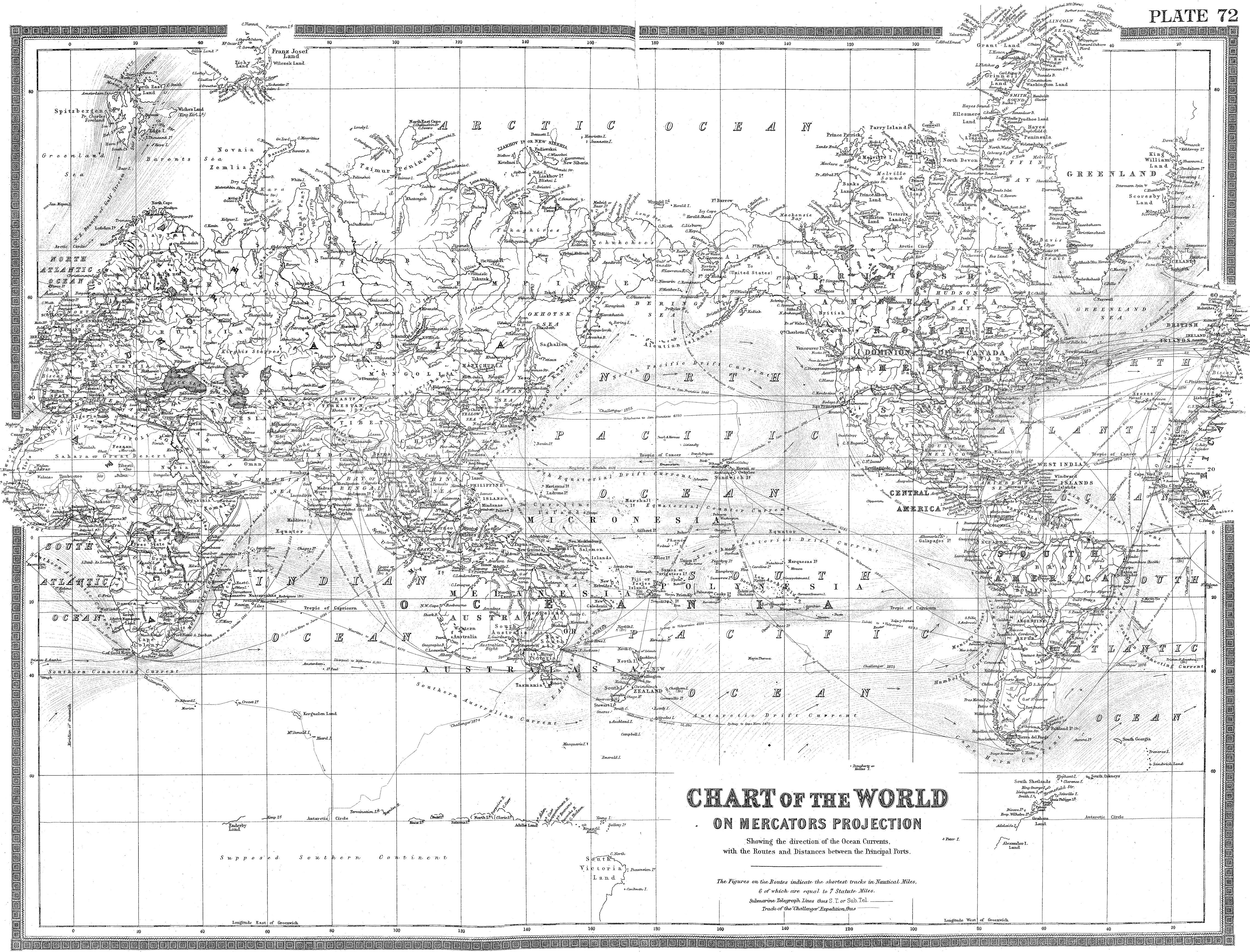












# CHART OF THE WORLD

## ON MERCATORS PROJECTION

Showing the direction of the Ocean Currents,  
with the Routes and Distances between the Principal Ports.

The Figures on the Routes indicate the shortest tracks in Nautical Miles,  
6 of which are equal to 7 Statute Miles.

Submarine Telegraph Lines thus S. T. or Sub Tel.

Tracks of the Challenger Expedition thus







THIS SHOWS  
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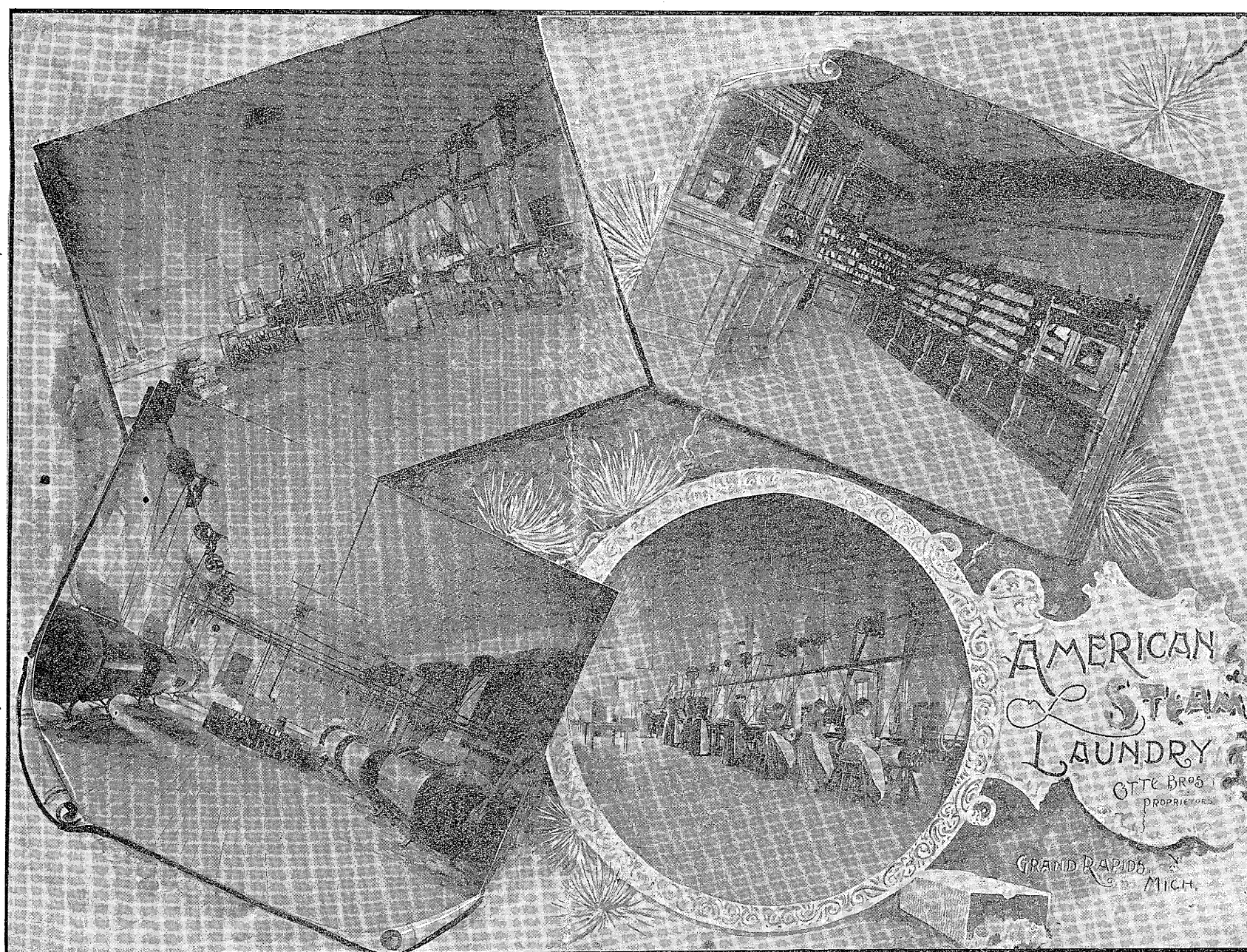
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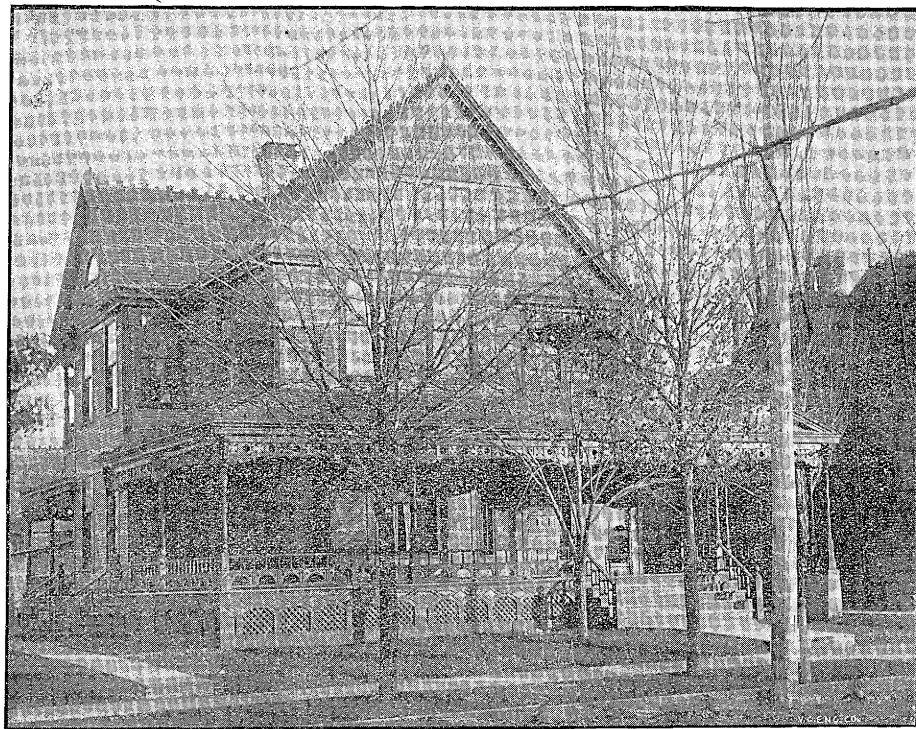
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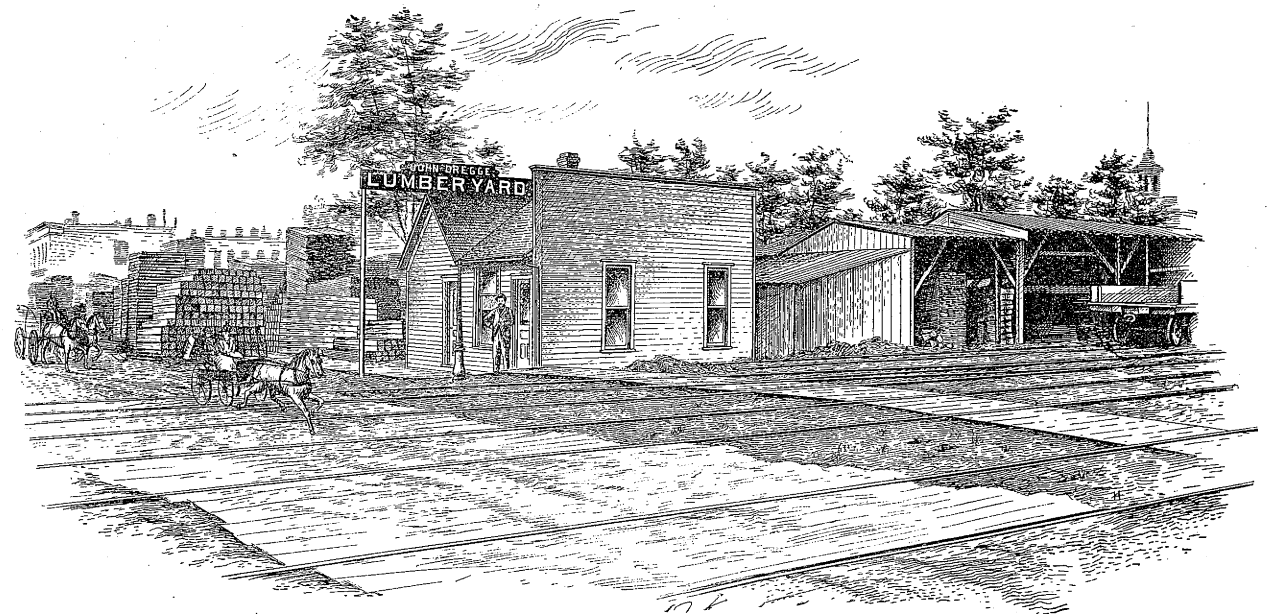
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